FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ELECTIONS PROCEED CALMLY; 37 PERCENT VOTE BY NOON

PY032023 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1709 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (NA) -- Some 37 percent of the electorate, approximately 7 million voters, had cast their votes by noon, according to information obtained from the Interior Ministry shortly after 1300. Elections were developing in an "absolutely normal manner" despite the initial inconveniences prompted by the distribution of ballot boxes, a problem which was almost fully solved early this morning. The average of voters per district by noon was 38 percent.

The enthusiasm of the Argentine voters was apparent in the great number of voters awaiting the moment the balloting tables opened at 0800, when people started to line up at balloting stations in Buenos Aires and the most important cities of the country.

At noon the Interior Ministry disclosed that by 1200 a total of 42 percent of the electorate had voted in the capital, while 42 percent had voted in Buenos Aires Province and 45 percent in the Greater Buenos Aires.

The most serious inconveniences in the distribution of ballot boxes occurred in Cordoba, Santa Fe, Formosa, and Catamarca, due to heavy rainfall during the last few hours. In some cases helicopters distributed the ballot boxes.

Elections 'Peaceful'

PY032125 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2056 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (TELAM) -- A few minutes before the closure of the polls, a brief evaluation of the elections reveals that all electoral activities have been carried out in an extremely peaceful manner throughout the country. It was possible to see in each district that the people cast their votes calmly, many of them bringing their small children, many of whom reached the doors of the voting rooms.

Taking into account that this election is to choose members of congress and that presidential elections always attract a higher number of voters, the high voter turnout in all the districts shows that threats issued on previous days have not frightened the people. Not even intense rain in some districts has marred this day of high civic enthusiasm.

75-Percent Turnout

PY032129 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2107 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (TELAM) -- The polls closed at 1800 [2100 GMT] throughout the country, with an electoral turnout higher than 75 percent. Everyone discharged his duty to choose the 127 federal deputies and the officials who will fill more than 6,000 elected posts in the various electoral districts.

PARTIAL VOTE COUNT GIVES UCR 45 PERCENT

PY040217 Paris AFP in Spanish 0125 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (AFP) -- According to the first official figures released at 2200 local time, the ruling Radical Civic Union (UCR) received 45 percent of the votes in today's elections, with almost 10 percent of the total registered votes counted.

While the Peronists received 28 percent, the center leftist-leaning Intransigent Party received 5 percent.

The official partial results after 1,589,000 votes from 7,268 voting stations were counted are as follows:

UCR	673,758 votes (45 percent)
Justicialist Party	528,941 votes (35 percent)
Intransigent Party	75,339 votes (5 percent)
Democratic Center Union	71,801 votes (5 percent)
Other parties	[votes not given] (2 percent)

UCR Maintains Lead

PY040309 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0247 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (TELAM) -- According to official information released at 2245 by the computer center at the General San Martin Cultural Center in Buenos Aires, the following are the official nationwide election returns:

Total number of votes: 2,618,753
Number of voting stations: 12,360
Voting stations still to be counted: 58,204

Radical Civic Union	1,158,013 votes (45 percent)
Justicialist Liberation Front	394,448 votes (15 percent)
Justicialist Party	308,853 votes (12 percent)
Total: Justicialist factions	703,301 votes (27 percent)
Intransigent Party	140,418 votes (5 percent)
Democratic Center Union Alliance	118,299 votes (5 percent)
Democratic Center Union	6,629 votes (0 percent)
Total: Democratic Center Union	124,928 votes (5 percent)
Federal Party	61,866 votes (2 percent)
Peoples Front	54,335 votes (2 percent)
Progressive Democratic Party	41,818 votes (2 percent)
Christian Democratic Party	11,775 votes (0 percent)

Martinez Claims Victory

PY040007 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2337 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (EFE) -- The first of the voting results arriving at the General San Martin computer center from the principal polling stations in Buenos Aires and the interior give, as of 2300 GMT, a 50-percent lead to the government party. Argentine Vice President Victor Martinez has claimed that the Radicals will win about 10 more deputies' seats in today's parliamentary elections, according to data already available to his party.

Martinez told EFE that this projection of the results, coming after the closing of the polls, will allow the Radical Civic Union [UCR] to increase its Senate seats in the elections which will be held this coming year. The Argentine vice president said this at the UCR headquarters, insisting that the government would use this eventual legislative majority to benefit all sectors.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli asserted that this clearly shows the categorical response to the absurd alternative raised by small, marginal groups who believe things can be resolved in Argentina through violence or authoritarian measures.

RIOS ERENU: 'ARMY FULLY ABIDES BY CONSTITUTION'

PY011841 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Relay from Government House by Susana Cerro]

[Excerpt] This morning President Raul Alfonsin attended the mass held at the Stella Maris Chapel on All Saints Day to pay homage to those who died for the fatherland in the line of duty. Alfonsin was accompanied by Defense Minister Roque Carranza, Defense Secretary Jose Horacio Jaunarena, and Defense Production Secretary Raul Tomas. The mass was also attended by Chief of Staff Brigadier Teodoro Waldner, Army Chief of Staff General Hector Rios Erenu, Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Ramon Arosa, and Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadiar Ernesto Crespo.

At the end of the mass, General Hector Rios Erenu made a brief statement when he was asked about the situation of the Armed Forces in view of recent events.

[Begin recording] I am apeaking exclusively on behalf of the Army. I have made this statement several times. The Army fully abides by the Constitution and laws. Therefore, the recent events are no exception to our basic principle, that is, our full respect for and subordination to the Constituion and laws that regulate military life. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY TO RESTRUCTURE SIDE

PY011754 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2132 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Oct (NA) -- Reliable sources have revealed that the national government reportedly intends to carry out -- once the national defense law is approved -- a restructuring of the military intelligence systems and services. This important matter was allegedly discussed during the meeting President Alfonsin held with the military commanders on 28 October. According to what was unofficially announced, the restructuring of the intelligence services will be carried out within the framework of the general military reform; however, recent events may force government authorities to adopt urgent measures in this field.

According to our sources, the case of Raul Guglielminetti and recent government charges about the existence of a destabilizing plan allegedly prompted the president to propose the restructuring of military intelligence services during a meeting in his Olivos residence with the chiefs of the Armed Forces and the Joint Staff.

It is believed that the official proposal calls for active participation by military men in the Secretariat for State Intelligence [SIDE], thus modifying the government's position when it assumed power in December 1983. However, assurances have been given that the SIDE chief will still be a civilian. Apparently the proposal's main objective is to prevent leaks from the intelligence services and other mistakes stemming from the lack of professionalism of some of those responsible for the services. Some rumors say that General Ricardo Flouret, retired, could work at SIDE but not as its chairman. Apparently, the military men will work within the organizational structure of SIDE, which will have a civilian command.

ATTEMPT TO ABDUCT HUMAN RIGHTS ASSEMBLYMAN FAILS

PY020240 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0056 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Nov (NA) -- Four unknown persons, who claimed to belong to "an intelligence agency" of the Armed Forces and to be acting "by virtue of the state of siege," today attempted to abduct a member of the Human Rights Permanent Assembly [APDH] in a public place and in broad daylight. President Alfonsin is an APDH member.

The attempt failed because physician Juan Carlos Martinez, the coordinator of the prevention section of the APDH mental health subcommittee, resisted and began to shout. This alerted neighbors and forced the criminals to leave in a gray Chevrolet bearing Buenos Aires license plate No 288309 and in a pickup truck. The incident occurred a few minutes before 1100 this morning near Dr Martinez' house, at the corner of Charcas and Fitz Foy streets in this capital.

During a press conference at the APDH headquarters, Martinez reported that two of the unknown persons "approached me as I left my house, and, after showing me credentials bearing the words 'Air Force', they asked me to go with them because they had orders to arrest me to investigate my background by virtue of the state of siege."

SANTA FE UCR SECRETARY DENOUNCES VIOLENCE

PY011552 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0447 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Rosario, 31 Oct (TELAM) -- Ricardo Terrile, secretary of the Santa Fe Radical Civic Union [UCR] Provincial Committee, has sent a telegram to Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli reporting the existence of armed groups who fired weapons at point-blank range at a UCR member who was carrying out election duties. At a press conference, Terrile also disclosed that he had sent a similar telegram to the Santa Fe minister of government, Eduardo Cevallo, requesting an exhaustive investigation into the incident and the arrest of those responsible for it.

In a communique which was also distributed during the press conference, it is stated that Hugo Barrionuevo, together with a group of individuals following his orders, fired a large caliber weapon at a young UCR member who was putting up posters for the election campaign. The communique states that the UCR youth was wounded in the legs. It also recalls that just a few days ago Luis Caceres, president of the Santa Fe UCR committee, was attacked and insulted when he was about to take part in a party meeting. The note goes on to state that individuals who insulted and tried to beat up Anibal Reinaldo (first delegate to the UCR National Committee) were identified by police authorities and immediately released on a court order.

After noting a series of other attacks and bomb threats to party premises, the communique emphasizes that the escalation of violence is aimed at UCR members and authorities, and recalls the violent acts that took place at the end of the 1983 electoral campaign in Rosario.

VIOLENCE REPORTED AFTER FINAL CAMPAIGN RALLIES

PY021640 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2335 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Oct (TELAM) -- Supporters of the various political forces participating in the 3 November election engaged in several incidents early this morning after attending rallies to mark the closing of the electoral camapign. Several people sustained gunshot wounds early this morning in a clash between members of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] and the Justicialist Party. Police have arrested several people involved in the clash, which took place near Saavedra bridge, where rival groups were painting slogans. It has been reported that the wounded UCR members were taken to the Military Hospital and to the Fernandez Hospital, the Justicialist members to the Vicente Lopez Hospital, and those arrested to the 35th Police Precinct.

The Democratic Centrist Union (UCD) has reported that UCD members were attacked with gunfire early this morning while posting electoral signs in the San Isidro district. The attack was spearheaded by Horacio Barreiro, self-appointed "private secretary" of UCR candidate Leopoldo Moreau, who was followed by a group of UCR supporters.

The Integration and Development Movement (MID) has reported that 15 UCR members carrying firearms beat 7 young MID members who were distributing leaflets in the Monte Grande district in Buenos Aires.

Peronist Groups Clash

PY011240 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0321 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Oct (TELAM) -- The 3D Police Precinct tonight confirmed three youths were wounded by gunfire during an incident that took palce after 2100 at the intersection of Juan Domingo Peron [formerly Cangallo Street] and Cerrito Streets. It was a clash between groups of troublemakers, the officer on duty told TELAM. He then excused himself from giving further details.

Later, however, police sources admitted the confrontation had reportedly taken place between Peronist groups at the intersection, some 10 blocks from the rally organized by Peronist candidate for deputy Antonio Caffiero in Plaza de Mayo.

Dr Luis Capalbo, head of the staff on duty at the Argerich Hospital, reported that only one individual with a bullet wound had received medical attention. He gave no further details except that the young man with a bullet wound in his right thigh is under medical observation.

33 Jailed After Fight

PY011650 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1401 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Rosario, 1 Nov (TELAM) -- Radical and Justicialist Party members clashed at 0430 today in the southern part of this city. [illegible]cident resulted in 33 arrests. Those arrested are currently being held at the [illegible]olice Precinct.

According to a police report, the encounter took place at the intersection of Uriburu Avenue and Orono Boulevard in the Tiro Suizo neighborhood, where Radical Party members of the 21st Radical Party Headquarters, as well as Peronists from the 25th Justicialist Party Headquarters had been pasting party posters on the walls. An undetermined number of people were wounded during the fighting. When police arrested these people, they found two guns (presumably .22 caliber), chains, clubs, and other weapons.

During another operation this morning, two cars were seized -- a Torino and a Chevrolet -- and a small-caliber weapon was allegedly found.

UCR Supporters Wounded

PY040322 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0243 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Nov (DYN) -- According to Radio Continental, a column of Radical Party supporters was attacked with gunfire by a group of unidentified individuals in the outlying neighborhood of Lanus, and, according to a preliminary report, three persons sustained bullet wounds. Tha radio station stated that according to the charges filed by Radical supporters, the attackers identified themselves as members of the Buenos Aires Frejuli [Justicialist Liberation Front] faction.

Information was also disclosed in incidents in the capital of Neuquen province, where shots were heard.

VAGO LABELS GOVERNMENT CHARGES 'INSANE CYNICISM'

PY020104 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1940 GMT 1

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Nov (NA) -- Journalist Jorge Vago, who has become the first political refugee under the current constitutional government, today referred to the official Interior Ministry decision "to level charges that cannot be proved" as "insane cynicism." Vago, currently at the Paraguayan Embassy in Buenos Aires awaiting a decision by General Alfredo Stroessner on whether the grant him political asylum, charged Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli with being "disrespectful" and with having acted with "criminal boldness against a journalist whose only crime is having irritated the 'master' with his true and unquestionable reports."

In a special issue written at the Paraguayan Embassy, where he sought refuge yesterday, the director of the tabloid PRENSA CONFIDENCIAL states: "I have seen several governments, and all of them have made me laugh. But I feel sorry for this government..."

Vago, whose name is included on a list of 12 military men and civilians charged with disrupting public order, confesses that he is "horrified, not by fear, but by the insane cynicism of their leveling charges which cannot be proven." He adds that the government with its "propaganda campaign," has succeeded in creating a climate of public opinion "in which one cannot expect to be treated fairly." He once again challenges the interior minister "to prove, in the eyes of the public, all the charges leveled" against him. "The ministry has not and will not answer my challenge, because he has no proof ...," Vago says.

Vago dismisses the government charge that he belongs to the extreme rightist wing and recalls that he was also jailed under the state of siege for having "defended the ousted government of Arturo Illia, who was toppled by ultrarightist member Juan Carlos Ongania, by his 'church followers' [cursillistas], and by the Opus Dei members."

He adds that later "he was the target" of 11 attacks by "subversive groups."

"Now that the ultraleftist wing is in power and dressed in the Radical shirt, it is trying to silence me...," Vago stresses. He recalls that Radicals Fernando de la Rua, Facundo Suarez, Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen, Carlos Herette, and Gustavo Sole were among the lawyers who gave him legal advice "to counter the blows of the Ongania military dictatorship."

In the final part of his article, which he addresses to the public, Vago stresses that he has not been affected by the "insane charge" leveled by the interior minister. "Quite the contrary, it has strengthened my cause because it has unveiled criminal boldness against a journalist whose only 'crime' is to have irritated the 'master' with his true and unquestionable reports," he stresses.

Seeks Permission To Depart

PY020125 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0030 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Nov (NA) -- The Interior Ministry reported tonight that journalist Jorge Vago has submitted "a request to exercise his option to leave the country," while the Foreign Ministry is still waiting for a Paraguayan Government decision on the legal status of Vago, who is charged by the Executive Branch with attempting to disrupt public order. In a terse communique that gives no details of the procedures to be followed in Vago's case, the Interior Ministry merely reports that Vago has requested to go to Asuncion, Paraguay.

To Leave 5 November

PY022012 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1935 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Nov (EFE) -- Argentine journalist Jorge Vago, one of the 12 individuals accused by the government of carrying out destabilizing maneuvers and who sought asylum in the Paraguayan Embassy in Buenos Aires, will travel to Paraguay on 5 November. This was reported to EFE by a spokesman of PRENSA CONFIDENCIAL, a weekly publication directed by Vago, adding that Vago has been authorized by President Stroessner to travel to Paraguay.

Vago will travel to Asuncion with safe conduct from the Paraguayan Embassy in an airplane of the Paraguayan Air Lines (LAP). Before departing, Vago will hold a press conference to explain the significance of his exile. Last night Vago requested permission to exercise his option to leave the country in keeping with one of the guarantees under the state of siege, the Interior Ministry reported.

JUDGE RULES SIEGE DETENTION CONSTITUTIONAL

PY020222 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2343 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Nov (TELAM) -- Trial Judge Martin Irurzun today turned down a habeas corpus petition filed on behalf of Raul Rivanera Carles, whose detention was ordered by the executive branch on charges of conspiracy against constitional order.

Additionally, the judge turned down a request by Rivanera's lawyers to rule Decrees 2049, 2052, and 2070-85 unconstitutional.

CAPUTO ON TERRORISM, FALKLANDS, FOREIGN DEBT

PY012257 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0151 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Santa Rosa (La Pampa), 31 Oct (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said here today that the terrorist attacks, far from having positive effects, are regressive because the harassment of the state has weakened Argentina's international position. Caputo held a press conference shortly before attending the closing of the La Pampa Radical Civic Union (UCR) campaign, to be held here this evening.

The minister said terrorist attacks "cannot jeopardize our democracy. All of us are aware that these absolutely insane actions remind many countries of the ghost of the past, which in recent years has been so much with us in Argentina." This is not positive, it is a step backward. It is an attempt by those who want to weaken not only the government but also the country, because they want Argentina once again to be weak and small. But this will not happen, because Argentina is no longer a small country, he stressed.

Asked about the Malvinas issue, he said that the Argentine strategy consists of explaining to the international community that Argentine demands are based on reason and on just rights, and the negotiations remain deadlocked because of the intransigence of the British, who have refused to recognize the reasonableness of our position. After flatly denying that Argentina will sit at the negotiating table if the sovereignty issue is not in the agenda -- he said it is impossible for Argentina to accept this -- Caputo said that reason is on our side, and we have all the time we need. We have the support of the international community, and we will win.

Concerning the foreign debt issue, Caputo said that the position of the creditor countries is gradually becoming more flexible, because they are already considering the issue from a political viewpoint. The industrialized countries' position was very strict, but we have continued posing our demands. The Seoul meeting gave more than a proposal; it provided an answer to Latin American debtor countries' problems.

We have long maintained that the debt problem is a political issue. Thus, political steps have been taken because the problem calls for a political solution. This is a very important step forward, although it is not everything we [word indistinct]. However, it has shown Latin America's capacity to undertake joint action to gradually solve the serious debt problem, he said.

Asked about Argentina's position toward Cuban President Fidel Castro's proposal to declare a moratorium on the debt, Caputo replied: The nonpayment of the debt could lead us to a situation that might be beyond government control. We believe that countries like ours, which are trying to rebuild their social life in democracy and to reintegrate with the international community, cannot afford to refuse to repay their debt because this would badly shake their sociopolitical structure, he added. He said that the different positions the Latin American countries have adopted in the economic area will not hinder the search for Latin American integration. The foreign debt problem affects each country in particular and the region as a whole, he said.

VICE PRESIDENT PROPOSES RESPONSE TO TIN CRISIS

PY021542 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Vice President Julio Garret has said that although the current tin crisis is dramatic for the country, it will not bury Bolivian mining. We have the mechanisms to cope with the crisis. I believe we must not panic about the tin crisis, Garret said, proposing some measures.

Regarding a temporary suspension of payments for mining royalties, Garret explained that the Bolivian mining industry is currently paying only 50 percent of the royalties on its exports to foreign companies. If international tin prices drop by 50 percent, as reported, and the Bolivian mining industry is exempted from paying royalties, the mineworkers will not be affected. If this initiative is not in order, then studies should be conducted seeking that royalties payments be based on net profits because no royalties can be paid on something not yielding profits, Garret added.

Negotiations are being conducted with the IMF to obtain compensatory financing which, given the current circumstances, is in order for Bolivia. Garret said the IMF accepts this type of request whenever goods exported by its member countries are affected by international prices. We are entitled to ask the IMF for up to 80 percent of our contributions to the IMF. The compensatory financing will be allocated to offset the deficit caused by not paying mining royalties. The Bolivian contribution to the IMF totals $86 million.

Garret said that one of the ways to cope with the current crisis is to reactivate mining, and this goal, of course, will be achieved through credits. On the other hand, Garret felt that the current tin crisis is just temporary and that sooner or later the international tin market will recover. We must take into account that there are many interests at stake. Not only the productive centers but also banks and other international enterprises are involved.

In conclusion, Garret proposed that all the sectors involved in mining, namely the government, businessmen, and mineworkers, make a common effort. This crisis calls for active participation, especially by the workers. The crisis has placed mining in serious jeopardy and it is important that everyone assume his responsibility. We need responsible union leaders because an irresponsible revolutionary is just a demagogue, the vice president stated. Garret asked for a period of social peace to allow for the recovery of mining. The results will be for the benefit of everyone, he said.

MINISTER PROMISES NO MINE DENATIONALIZATION

PY020251 Paris AFP in Spanish 1425 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] La Paz, 31 Oct (AFP) -- The Bolivian minister of mining and metallurgy, Sinforoso Cabrera, today promised that the government of President Victor Paz Estenssoro will not denationalize the mines. He said this at a commemoration of the 33d anniversary of the nationalization of the big tin deposits. Cabrera explained to AFP that this past 29 August the decentralization of the administration of the nationalized mining sector had been arranged in order to make it profitable and avoid bankruptcy. The anniversary comes at a somber moment for the world tin industry due to oversupply, which has caused the temporary closure of the London Metals Exchange.

At the same time, the Bolivian Government has sent notes to the Association of Tin-Producing Countries as well as to other producing countries who are not members, such as Brazil and the PRC, in order to adopt energetic measures to bolster the price of the metal.

FINANCE MINISTER ON REDUCTION IN INFLATION

PY031056 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Roberto Gisbert has said that the government is very pleased because its economic plan has reduced inflation below 4 percent. He also said that the government is willing to review its plan if positions and proposals consistent with the needs of the country are presented. Here is an important part of what he said:

[Begin recording] Hyperinflation has indeed been curbed. This morning we evaluated the situation. We are very pleased to report that the inflation rate is below 4 percent [per month]. This week we have been observing the behavior of prices and we will probably have final figures on 4 or 5 November. According to our evaluation after looking at price levels during the first 3 weeks of October, hyperinflation has already been curbed. Inflation has been low during the 2d and 3d week in October, therefore we believe that the October inflation rate will be below 4 percent. We are going to confirm this on 4 or 5 November. [end recording]

The finance minister also referred to regulations on customs duties. He indicated that there is corruption in the customs service.

SENATE PRESIDENT WARNS OF 'SHARP RECESSION'

PY030219 Paris AFP in Spanish 1907 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] La Paz, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Bolivia is running the risk of going from hyperinflation into a sharp recession due to the lack of sufficient finances to reactivate the productive apparatus, the president of the Senate and a prominent figure in the mining industry, Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada, said today.

Sanchez de Lozada, who is also the leader of the progovernment National Revolutionary Movement (MNR), harshly criticized some members of President Victor Paz Estenssoro's cabinet for having dictated protectionist measures to the sugar industry, thus nullifying the decree on free imports passed on 2 August.

The Senate president insisted that the policy of patching things together and making concessions to the industrial sectors who pressure for the modification of this decree will only aggravate the situation in the country, since what is needed is the adoption of creative and imaginative measures that will reactivate production without subsidizing it.

Sanchez de Lozada's words cast a cloud on the announcement of Planning Minister Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez that Bolivia had slowed its hyperinflation, which would have reached 50,000 percent by the end of this year.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Robert Gisbert emphasized that Bolivian inflation in October was only 4.4 percent, compared to previous months, when it was usually more than 100 percent. However, it was unanimously emphasized that Paz Estenssoro's liberalization plan would not work without foreign economic support, which, according to Bedregal Gutierrez, does not appear to be forthcoming soon.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF PRC'S ZHAO

Zhao Speaks of World Peace

PY020233 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Nov 85 p 4

[Text] "We have a strong conviction that hope for a lasting peace does exist, provided all peace-loving countries unite, stay alert, and join their efforts," China's Premier Zhao Ziyang said yesterday, as he invited Brazil to effectively join in the effort to reduce the East-West conflict and the word's atomic arsenal. He then added: "The big ones must not threaten the little ones; the rich must not oppress the poor; and the strong should not humiliate the weak."

In his hour-long lecture on the PRC's foreign policy followed by a question-and-answer session at Itamaraty, Zhao Ziyang insisted on defending an immediate nuclear disarmament in the world. He made a point of defining his country's foreign policy as being independent from the superpowers-- the United States and the Soviet Union -- and said that China "will at no time and under no circumstance depend" on any great power or on any bloc of countries, nor "will it establish alliances or strategic relations with major powers or bow to pressures from them."

Referring to President Jose Sarney's speech at the United Nations 2 months ago, defending world disarmament, Zhao Ziyang said that the Brazilian president's words "not only echo the voice of Brazil, but that of Latin America and the Third World in general." Here are some passages from the Chinese premier's lecture:

"The greatest threat to world peace and the security of nations is an acute dispute over hegemony and a continuous arms escalation between the superpowers."

"China defends the total ban and destruction of nuclear arms."

"China will never be the first country to use nuclear weapons under any circumstance. Our commitment is never to use them against nonnuclear countries or denuclearized zones. We demand that all countries possessing nuclear weapons assume the same commitment."

"As a member of the Third World, China firmly supports the struggle of the developing countries for the creation of a new international economic order, and contends that the solution to the current, urgent problems that the developing countries face is closely dependent on the creation of a new international economic order that can be achieved through North-South dialogue and South-South cooperation."

"The Central American conflict must be solved by the Central American people. We are opposed to any form of intervention by any foreign power in the affairs of the region."

"The developing countries of the Third World represent the main contingent for preserving peace and the indispensable force to promote the common prosperity of the world economy."

"We expect the developed countries and the international financial institutions to adopt a cooperative attitude, helping the debtor countries to recover and develop their economies so that they can pay their debts with growth, not by sacrificing their interests."

Banquet Speech Highlighted

PY021235 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Nov 85 p 4

["Main excerpts" of speech by PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang at a banquet given in his honor by President Jose Sarney on 31 October in Brasilia]

[Text] As a major developing country, Brazil plays an increasingly important role in international affairs. Pursuing a foreign policy of independence and peace, Brazil has made valuable contributions to strengthening the unity and cooperation of the Third World and to maintaining regional and world peace by opposing power politics, by defending the principles of noninterference and self-determination by the people, by advocating the reform of the irrational international economic order, and by actively supporting the efforts of the Contadora Group to seek a peaceful solution to the Central American issues. We wish to express our great appreciation for all this.

Peace and development are important topics that concern not only the Chinese and Brazilian peoples but are also current basic problems. We hold that striving for a lasting peace, developing international cooperation, and promoting common prosperity constitute the sole rational choice of our time. Unfortunately, the unfair international economic order remains an obstacle to the growth of Third World countries and one of the evil consequences it has brought is the heavy foreign debt burden of developing countries. This problem, which has transcended the mere economic framework, has become a factor that is seriously affecting and will continue to affect international politics for a long time.

We hope that the creditor nations and the IMF, keeping in mind the global context and the future of the world economy as well as the principle of promoting repayment through development, will adopt a sound position and seek a positive solution through consultations with the debtor countries. Your Excellency said: "Brazil will not pay its debts either with recession, unemployment, or hunger." "An economic power like Brazil is conscious of its obligations and of its strength." "Brazil will never be subjected to anyone" and will struggle "in every way to promote its rights and strengthen its sovereignty." China is willing to join Brazil and other Latin American countries in continuing to promote North-South dialogue, South-south cooperation, and to strive for the establishment of a new international economic order.

China attaches great importance to its relations with Brazil because they represent a new type of relations for cooperation between developing nations, based on the following five principles: mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, nonaggression, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. These relations are beneficial both to the two peoples and to world peace. The purpose of my current visit is to promote Chinese-Brazilian ties, in particular, a marked increase in commercial exchanges and trade. Endowed with rich resources and having a huge market and a fairly high level of development, both China and Brazil have their own strong points and they may help supply each other's needs in many areas. I hope to exchagne ideas with government officials and with personalities of various Brazilian sectors to explore the various possibilities and means to strengthen understanding and cooperation between us. Guided by the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and shared development, China is willing to develop various forms of cooperation through multiple channels on a long-term and stable basis. The broad prospects of friendly Chinese-Brazilian cooperation can reach a renewed level through our joint effort.

Agreements Signed

PY020049 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] The Chinese premier today completed the second day of his visit in Brasilia and signed agreements at the Planalto Palace. Here we have information from reporter Joao Alexandre:

[Alexandre] Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang today followed an extensive agenda in Brasilia. In the morning he visited the National Congress where, in addition to meeting the plenums of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, he talked with Senate President Senator Jose Fragelli. Thereafter, he went to visit the Federal Supreme Court and the Governor of the Federal District, Deputy Jose Aparecido. In the afternoon, Zhao Ziyang met with President Jose Sarney for a second time, and then signed several documents for cooperation between the two countries in the cultural, metallurgy, and geological areas. A document on mutual consultations and a protocol of understanding were also signed. Speaking on the occasion, President Jose Sarney referred to the protocol of understanding.

[Begin Sarney recording] We summed up in a protocol of understanding the main agreements we have concluded, including the areas that have been mentioned, as well as questions of a commercial nature, such as Brazil's interest in augmenting its sales of iron ore, metallurgical products, cellulose, timber, aluminum, and automobiles; and China's interest in increasing its sales of oil, coal, corn, and cotton. The commercial understandings included in this protocol will greatly help our efforts to reach the target of $1.2 billion in mutual trade by 1986. [end recording]

As he left Planalto Palace, Zhao Ziyang went to the Itamaraty Palace, where he granted a press conference. Reporter Iara Maurenti reports from there:

[Maurenti] To effectively create a new international economic order, it is necessary to intensify relations among countries of the southern hemisphere. This declaration has just been made by Premier of China Zhao Ziyang in a press conference at Itamaraty. He also said that the developed countries must open their markets to the developing countries, and affirmed the Chinese policy of diversifying trade, economic, technological, and cultural relations with Latin America. He added that both Brazil and China have much in common despite the geographical distance separating them, of which he cited the natural potential of both countries, the considerable economic development, the search for their own paths, the mutual understanding of their situations, and above all the interest in broadening relationships. Tonight, Premier Zhao Ziyang will give a dinner for President Jose Sarney at the Army Club in Brasilia. Tomorrow, he will travel to Carajas.

More on Agreements

PY032047 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- The assignment of military attaches in the Brazilian Embassy in Beijing and the PRC Embassy in Brasilia is provided for in the package of five agreements that were signed at Planalto Palace yesterday by Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal and PRC Ambassador to Brazil Tao Dazhao. The ceremony was presided over by President Jose Sarney and PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang and other authorities of the two countries. After the agreements were signed, President Sarney noted that Zhao Ziyang's visit has raised "the relations between our two governments and the friendship between our people to another political level."

Of the five documents signed, the most important is the protocol of understanding that contains a new economic-commercial agreement. The two countries also signed a cultural cooperation agreement, cooperation protocols in the iron and steel and geoscience fields, and a memorandum that provides for annual political consultations between the two governments with the purpose of discussing bilateral agreements and the international political situation.

The two governments also agreed to exchange scientific and technical missions in the agricultural, livestock, pisciculture, forestry, health, hydroelectricity, microelectronics and computers, space, meteorology, and standardization fields. They have also shown great interest in scientific and technical cooperation regarding mineral resources for iron and steel production, geoscientific purposes, and the exploitation of oil.

Regarding the annual political memorandums of understanding, Sarney said that he is sure that these consultations, "in addition to allowing a great exchange of information in all fields, will greatly contribute to increase the effectiveness of our respective foreign policies and of our struggle for peace and development."

Zhao Arrives in Ric

PY032301 Paris AFP in Spanish 2202 GMt 3 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro, 3 Nov (AFP) -- PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang today arrived in Rio de Janeiro from Foz de Iguacu in southern Brazil, where he visited the Itaipu hydroelectric dam, built by Brazil and Paraguay on the Parana River. The PRC premier voiced his admiration for this project, the result of Brazilian technology which could be transferred to his country within the framework of the agreements signed on Friday, 1 November, in Brasilia with President Jose Sarney.

SARNEY 'SHOCKED' BY REPORTS OF CABINET CHANGES

PY020010 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 Oct 85 p 5

[Text] Upon reading yesterday's newspapers, President Jose Sarney was reportedly shocked by reports that he would make another change in his cabinet and told Jorge Murad, his son-in-law and private secretary, that some people do not want him to complete any government program since "they want me to keep changing my cabinet."

A presidential aide who described the scene says this is proof that Sarney does not intend to make changes in his cabinet before the period for mandatory resignations -- established in the draft amendment convoking the Constituent Assembly -- for those ministers who may want to take part in the Constituent Assembly. Those ministers having no congressional seat will have to resign on 15 February 1986, that is, 9 months before the opening of the Constituent Assembly.

Presidential Press Secretary Fernando Cesar Mesquita said: "President Sarney said he does not intend to replace Minister A, B or C." Mesquita added that those ministers who may resign in order to take part in the Constituent Assembly "will be replaced immediately."

PRESIDENT DECREES MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

PY011303 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portugese 1000 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] The new across-the-board minimum wage increase has been implemented. This announcement was made a short while ago by President Jose Sarney.

[Begin Sarney recording] We are now going to talk about the new minimum salary to be implemented as of today, 1 November. The new national minimum wage will be 600,000 cruzeiros. When I assumed the presidency, the minimum wage was 166,000 cruzeiros. In 7 months, it has climbed to 600,000 cruzeiros. I have not only doubled the minimum wage in May but now I have also ordered an increase above the inflation rate. A wage with a real increase such as the one granted today, that is, 12 percent above the inflation rate, has not been granted in the past 24 years. [end recording.

The decree granting this increase will be signed at 1000 this morning at the Planalto Palace.

Increase Called Noninflationary

PY021556 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Excerpts] The government has announced that the new minimum wage will not be inflationary. Yesterday at 0600, President Jose Sarney announced over a radio program the new minimum wage of 600,000 cruzeiros. Afterward, conferring with Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto and Civilian Household Minister Jose Hugo Castelo Branco, the president signed the decree establishing the new minimum wage.

Finance Minister Dilson Funaro said that since 1961, no government has been concerned enough to set real values for the minimum wage, as the Sarney government is now doing.

Planning Minister Joao Sayad has stated that increasing the minimum wage above the INPC [National Consumer Price Index] will not have an inflationary impact because it will be compensated for by an increase in the employment rate, a production increase, and a drop in the interest rates.

SENIOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

PY021725 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Oct 85 p 4

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Major General Geraldo de Araujo Ferreira Braga, the 63-year-old chief of the National Intelligence Service (SNI) Central Agency, on 10 October submitted his application for retirement, even though he could have stayed in his post until 15 March 1986. The names of three generals are mentioned as his possible replacements: Francisco Batista Torres de Mello, commander of the 10th Military Region in Fortaleza (Ceara State), which will be eliminated when the new Army reorganization plan goes into effect, Manuel Agusto Teixeira, first deputy chief of staff of the Army; and Waldir Eduardo Martins, commander of the 5th Military Region stationed in Curitiba (Parana State).

Gen Braga told FOLHA that his early departure from the SNI Central Agency was prompted by personal reasons only. "I maintain very good relations with General Ivan de Suoza Mendes," Braga said when asked whether there was conflict between those following the traditional SNI line -- which had been adopted by Generals Octavio Medeiros, Newton Cruz, and Braga himself -- and the new style adopted by current SNI chief Gen de Souza Mendes, who has never been part of the "intelligence community."

"The Service (as the SNI is usually called) has not disappointed me," Braga said. He added that he is voluntarily retiring 5 months early. "I am a holdover from the previous government and I should let another officer take my post," he said. In his opinion, "rotation is highly advisable." He also said he believes he has discharged his duty "by working as honestly as I could."

VALDES JUSTIFIES DIVERSE STANDS WITHIN ACCORD

PY021704 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 22 Oct 85 p C3

[Excerpt] Gabriel Valdes Subercaseaux, president of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], yesterday stated "it is only natural that in such a broad political spectrum as the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy some discrepancies arise concerning the concrete implementation of the document." During a press conference, the PDC president stated "for that reason, a week ago our party started talks with the National Union and the National Party [PN], as well as with other parties, talks that will continue this week to determine our commitments as signatories of the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy."

Valdes noted that, in his opinion, "the National Accord is not a political accord like the Democratic Alliance [AD]. It is a clear-cut accord drawn up in good faith, in keeping with what is being stated in it, and not with other things." Valdes called the outcome of the meetings "very positive," because the PN, the National Union, "and we understand the diversity of the existing viewpoints. In this way, we are drawing closer together. The National Accord is not a mirror reflecting the disparities between its members." Valdes argued that the document consists of "a number of steps and measures to be taken to achieve the goal stated therein. The importance of not enforcing Article 24 of the Constitution and abrogating provisions restricting essential rights and the activities of political parties is very clearly established in the document."

Valdes voiced his hope of reaching "a complete accord on what we have to do jointly, on what was written, and on the autonomy of each party within other accords -- in our case, within the AD -- or of those activities the parties are conducting on their own." Valdes recalled that last Friday a forum was held in which all the signatories of the National Accord, along with Sergio Molina, a member of the commission that drew up the accord, voiced their stands, which "shows agreement on what is being stated there."

CONFECH TO SUPPORT 5-6 NOVEMBER PROTEST

PY021624 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0041 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 1 Nov (EFE) -- The Chilean Students Confederation [Confederacion de Estudiantes de Chile -- Confech], which comprises 25 Chilean university student federations, today requested the military government approve the contents of the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy. The National Accord, which was signed by 11 rightist, center, and leftist political parties, proposes as an alternative to the government's plans the holding of direct presidential elections, the reformation of the Constitution, the election of a national congress, and the legalization of political parties.

In the name of the Confech, Yerko Ljubetic, president of the University of Chile Students Federation, reported that the organization will also support the protest, scheduled for 5 and 6 November, demanding the release of six arrested labor leaders. These six leaders, including Rodolfo Seguel, president of the National Workers Command [CNT], are being held responsible by the government for the violent actions that took place on the 4 September day of protest.

The Confech leaders also said that they will protest against government intervention in the universities.

PRO-PINOCHET GROUPS LOSE IN UNIVERSITY ELECTIONS

PY012041 Paris AFP in Spanish 1434 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Student groups supporting the military government of President Augusto Pinochet have suffered a landslide defeat in an election of student board members at the University of Chile in Santiago, Chile's main university. While progovernment candidates received 3,800 votes, candidates of the 3 major opposition groups altogether received 13,000 votes. The vote tally shows the winner of the election was a coalition of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the Social Democrats, which received 5,658 votes, only 74 more votes than a coalition of the Communist Party and minor leftist parties, which placed second. Another progovernment student faction and two independent candidates received very few votes and were outvoted by the Socialist Bloc, the third major dissident force.

There was 25-percent abstentionism among a total of 22,300 registered voters. According to the electoral rules, the two groups with the most votes will have to participate in a runoff election by mid-November. However, the possibility of an agreement to set up a united opposition board has not been ruled out. The Student Federation of the University of Chile, which is a center of growing opposition to the military government, is currently chaired by PDC member Yerko Ljubetic.

COOPERATION PLANNED WITH PERU TO COMBAT TERRORISM

PY022034 Paris AFP in Spanish 1351 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 2 Nov (AFP) -- General Fernando Paredes, director of the Chilean Civilian Investigative Police, has reported that the Chilean and Peruvian police will undertake coordinated actions to fight terrorism and suppress drug trafficking in their border regions. He said that these agreements had been signed during the fourth meeting between the Investigative Police of the two countries, which took place recently in the cities of Tacna, Peru, and Arica, Chile.

General Paredes said that Chilean and Peruvian police will exchange information about criminals who are being investigated for terrorism and on the most effective manner to fight terrorism. Contraband, counterfeiting, drug trafficking, and terrorism were among the subjects discussed during the meeting, which the Peruvian Policy Director Mario Munoz attended. Paredes added that the Peruvian and Chilean police will exchange information during investiations of smuggling in order to be more successful in the operations to suppress all aspects of this sort of crime. A joint Peruvian-Chilean operations plan to fight drug trafficking was agreed on.

'POLITICAL PRISONERS' GO ON HUNGER STRIKE

PY030147 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2357 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 2 Nov (TELAM-ANSA) -- Forty political prisoners in the Valparaiso public jail have begun a hunger strike demanding "to be kept in a special ward for political prisoners, separate from the criminal inmates and in adequate health and security conditions." The government of General Augusto Pinochet does not recognize this group's status as "political prisoners," saying they are being held for illegal possession of arms, taking part in subversive activities, or in activities prohibited under state security laws.

The beginning of the hunger strike was revealed by the self-proclaimed "political prisoners'" relatives, who gave a press conference in Valparaiso, a port 120 km from Santiago. The strikers asked the government to recognize their "status as political prisoners" and to respect "the relevant international conventions on the right to trial by impartial and independent civilian tribunals, not to be held incommunicado, and also to receive both official and private medical, dental, and psychiatric care." They also demanded "the right to education and culture in their prison cells," and in relation to the legal process, they requested "that the proceedings be public and that the accused have the right to personally defend themselves if they wish."

WAVE OF BOMBINGS KILLS 5, DESTROYS SUPERMARKETS

PY032257 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2018 GMT 3 Nov 85

[By Marcial Campos de la Maza]

[Excerpts] Santiago, 3 Nov (EFE) -- The latest wave of bombings throughout the country, which has caused alarm among the people, has left five dead and caused substantial damage. The number of terrorist actions has increased with the approach of the next national protest, called for 5 and 6 November by the National Working Command in support of six labor leaders imprisoned by the government of General Pinochet.

Early this morning in Vina del Mar, 140 km northwest of Santiago, five people died from asphyxiation by smoke and toxic gas from firebombs thrown at the building where they lived, where a supermarket was also located. The fire, which began at 0640 GMT, destroyed the 5-story building in a few minutes. The Emporium supermarket was located in the ground floor.

At 0630 GMT, the Las Brisas supermarket, which is located in downtown Vina del Mar, also caught fire and was completely destroyed. A report issued by the fire department said that all the fires were caused by firebombs.

On 2 November, two buses caught fire in Valparaiso -- Chile's main port -- after the detonation of bombs that had been placed inside them.

Also in Valparaiso, three bombs went off early on 1 November, causing considerable damage to commercial buildings, private houses, and sea transportation company offices.

On Friday evening a powerful bomb gouged big holes in the facade of the social security building, which suffered damage estimated at millions of pesos.

On the afternoon of 2 November a firebomb went off inside a movie theater in Las Condes residential area, causing considerable damage. There were 314 people inside the theater, who rapidly left the building. No one was reported injured.

Early on 3 November, another bomb knocked down a public light pole in the nearby locality of Maipu, starting a fire.

On 30 October a 35-year-old woman was seriously wounded by a powerful bomb that went off at Lo Sierra Road, a few kilometers from downtown Santiago and very near the Santiago International Fair -- the FISA -- which is open to the public. The woman was driving by in her small car when the bomb went off and tossed her vehicle more than 80 meters.

CARABINEROS CLASH WITH DEMONSTRATORS IN ARICA

PY020145 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0007 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 1 Nov (EFE) -- A series of disturbances and confrontations took place last night and today between Carabineros and demonstrators in Arica, the city which will be the site of the next meeting between Chilean and Peruvian foreign ministers. According to information received in Santiago, the Carabineros today broke up a procession of about 100 youths marking a death which occurred in this northern Chilean city 1 year ago during a national protest. One year ago Sergio Contreras, a young student, died from a gunshot fired from a moving automobile. The murderers have never been identified.

After today's police action, disturbances occurred in various parts of the city, 2,000 km north of Santiago. Three people were detailed in the incidents, one of them a journalist and report for Radio Cooperativa of Santiago, Hector Merida. The journalist, who was accused of promoting disorder and impeding policy work, was later released. Barricades were set up in various slums in the city and there were confrontations with the policy. Last night, about 20 people were detained in similar incidents in Arica, while there were many cases of destruction of private and public property.

A meeting between Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle and Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner will take place in Arica from 7 to 9 November.

COMMANDO GROUP DYNAMITES CARABINEROS BARRACKS

PY011332 Paris AFP in Spanish 1250 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 1 Nov (AFP) -- It was officially reported today that a small Carabineros barracks in the elegant Providencia section of Santiago was attacked on the night of 30 October by an armed commando group of alleged leftists comprising at least three individuals, including a woman. Carrying submachineguns, the subversives intimidated and disarmed the single guard on duty and then immediately destroyed the place with a powerful dynamite bomb.

Three other bombing attacks took place on the night of 30 October against shops in the port city of Valparaiso and in the Vina del Mar seaside resort, on the central coast of the country.

Chilean authorities also reported that they will investigate the death of a Carabinero, who belonged to a special antiriot and antisubversive squad and whose body was found floating in the Mapocho River, which crosses Santiago.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES -- Chilean Undersecretary of Trade, Colonel Jorge Valenzuela has reported that as of 15 October 1985, Chile's trade surplus stood at $622.1 million. He indicated that exports totaled $2,923 million, while imports amounted to $2,300.9 million. In view of this, Undersecretary Valenzuela said the target surplus figure of $700 million set for this year will be attained and surpassed. [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 31 Oct 85 PY]

NEW PEACE COMMISSION INAUGURATED 24 OCT

Betancur Speaks

PA020017 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Oct 85 p 8 A

[Speech by President Belisario Betancur at the installation of the new Peace Commission on 24 October; place not given]

[Excerpts] I believe that the time and attention the government has dedicated to the significance and goals of the Peace Commission, which we have reestablished and which we inaugurate today, amply justify the president of the Republic's decision to cancel his trip to Europe, planned because of its great interest to Colombia's international political image and to add new positive elements to Colombia's general development process.

After a great deal of consultation to ensure proper represention -- so as to leave no doubt as to the support, even if only informal, that is behind each of the members -- and to ensure proper flexibility -- so as to provide the basis for a more prompt, firm and clear action -- we saw that this was necessary to reduce the number of members, even though it meant doing without illustrious persons who had worked from the beginning of the process on the various commissions with great generosity, always seeking the successful outcome that all Colombians fervently desire. To them I express our gratitude.

Some people, whose good intentions I have no reason to doubt, think that the recent events, mainly the fact that one of the groups that signed the truce has decided to break it, demonstrate that there is a serious flaw in our policies and that it is essential that they be substantially modified.

They also say that we went too far, either because of excess generosity or incurable ingenuousness which caused us to be deceived as to the nature and hidden intentions of those with whom we talked and signed pacts.

In view of these opinions, which I consider respectable, I must clarify some topics and point out others.

I have said that seeking peace through dialogue with the subversives does not represent a surrender on the part of the government. If in this dialogue the subversive leaders explain their political claims, the government does not diminish its authority by merely taking note of those claims, or by heeding those that seem socially beneficial.

Thus, the government has not proposed, and Congress has not approved any steps that they do not consider advisable for the progress and development of our democracy. Nothing has been done out of fear. Nothing will be done out of weakness in the face of blackmail. The only stable guarantee of our institutions is the confidence the people have in democracy. However, this confidence must be earned, consolidated, and especially deserved. This is a priority task.

We must admit, as responsible leaders, that in the past decades we have not been up to par. We live in a restricted democracy, and this restriction is not only or mainly in the letter of the law, but in the actual functioning of our institutions.

In Latin America several dictatorships have fallen rapidly and successively and greatly cleared up the somber picture that practically the entire region presented in the area of public liberties and human rights.

However, those of us who have fought in the last few years for peace and democratic solidarity for our countries know very well that we have reached a decisive moment in our history, that we cannot swing indefinitely between repressive governments and more or less open democratic regimes that are sometimes limited in their ability to solve our peoples' unpostponable and growing needs.

This is why this government has stimulated and will continue to stimulate collective solidarity in order to oppose external pressures, interference, and interventions; and to seek more just trade relations, and realistic and flexible treatment of our foreign debt. Its evolution cannot be allowed to continue without it becoming an unpenetrable barrier to solving traditional backwardness and the new and much more threatening poverty. This new poverty comes not now from the past, but from our unbalanced development and unjust development -- which has disastrous social effects and which rapidly breaks down traditional modes of peasant farming and handicrafts without generating sufficient jobs, housing, or services for the displaced populations and the new types of work.

This is the solution we have given with the government's "Development Plan: A Change With Justice!"

It is possible that those who reject the importance or existence of the objective factors of subversion are committing the mistake of believing that the subjective factors, whose reality they can prove with reason, are the only or at least the only functional factors. The latter -- personal agents or subjective factors -- undoubtedly exist. They are revolutionary groups who profess doctrines on the organization of the state and of society.

It is necessary to remove the objective factors of subversion, not out of fear of subversion, but because of love of human achievement, because of respect for human dignity.

I believe that this strategic victory of democracy is a challenge that our country should assume. It is difficult; it demands much audacity and imagination from the leaders, concessions from the privileged, and participation and initiative from the needy. I can see no other path for Colombia, if we consider it not from the perspective of the immediate political circumstances, but from our historical destiny as a people. I also do not see any other path for our region. It is unpostponable in Central America and inevitable in South America: the transformation of society, not in spite of democracy, but in the midst of democracy!

In order to comply with a such a delicate responsibility, the government, when defining the make-up of the Commission, took into account criteria which should now be released to you, to enlighten this meeting and free it from justified, but alien sensitivities.

In the first place, it is obvious that the government took into account the personal qualities of the participants: patriotism, love for the people, commitment to serve and dedication, as the task itself demands. Also taken into account were institutional, labor, or professional affiliations, with the idea of learning the point of view of our political, economic, and social forces on the important topics with which this commission will deal. Experience, parliamentary comments, and the general opinion indicated that a small number of members would make the task easier and would expedite the work.

It was also advisable that a single body have responsibility to intervene in the entire process, so as not to disperse or dilute proposals whose mere coordination would demand additional efforts later.

The commission will have the necessary support to effectively carry out its verifying mission.

Through its executive secretary or overseer, it will have a select and capable team of lawyers that will be supplied by the Attorney General's Office. The decision and recommendations on this matter will be the commission's, but it would be wise for them to be based on the reports supplied by the Attorney General's officials and the commission members, whom they can add in each case as the commission feels necessary. The commission has one initial matter to deal with: The request for an extension of the test or waiting period that started on 1 December, 1984 and during which the members of the FARC-EP [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army] should organize themselves "politically, economically, and socially, by their free will," according to the La Uribe Accords.

Love of the fatherland is to seek improvement -- not only love of the fatherland of our forefathers, the impeachable source of our identity, but also the decision to create a future, the country of our children, the country of the possible, the country of hope.

Fellow members of the Peace, Dialogue, and Verification Commission: Welcome to this hard but honest enterprise! May God and the country reward you!

Commission Termed Too Leftist

PA030112 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A Neutral Commission?"]

[Text] Can we have firm hopes of a fruitful effort by those who today make up the Peace Commission, which President Betancur has refurbished with new powers? There is no indication that in this new phase, those who have accepted appointments have the ability to successfuly walk the tortuous path of peace. On the contrary, it would seem that in the absence of important members of the Liberal Party and the retired officers (who were represented in the former commission), and with the strengthening of the leftist sector (they were all retained and there were some additions, such as Braulio Herrera), the decisive shift could tip the commission in a dangerous direction. The president said that one must apply imagination to the matter; however, much as we tried, we were unable to reach that goal, and now we must place ourselves in the bitter and at times unpleasant realm of pragmatism, which unfortunately does not augur optimum results.

Let us begin by asking whether the request for an extension of the test period submitted by the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] will be freely decided upon by the commission, or whether a decision is exclusively in the hands of the state, because the Constitution is clear on the subject. All of this brings up the dangerously equivocal question of how to handle these prolonged and difficult negotiations. The commissions have served, and the latest one apparently even more so, to allow the head of state to elude the responsibility of handling a matter as delicate as public order. We Colombians are accustomed to having the president, and the president alone, with the advice of a government team, direct the nation along the paths that are clearly outlined in the national Constitution. No rule is more emphatic than the clear and well-known one that obliges the government to "defend the honor, lives, and property of the citizens." Illustrious predecessors of his from both parties fulfilled that constitutional mandate on similar occasions with similar instruments. Is Dr Betancur doing the same?

The commission is beginning its job on crutches. Its achievements or its failures will affect the course of the next government more than the course of this one. However, it will serve as a cushion to absorb the responsibility of the head of state, Belisario Betancur.

A problem like the public order problem the country is facing, whether it be described as political or simply criminal, must involve a more personal and direct leadership that bears the stamp of the personality and modus operandi of the person holding the reins of state with powers that are almost absolute at times, and must have his persuasive ability brought to bear to achieve the proposed goals.

On speaking of peace, one must make a study in retrospect. We hear voices animated by an understandable optimism, and others characterized by desperate negativism. There are those who maintain and allege erroneously that what has been achieved is proof of the success of the present efforts. Of them we ask: Are the achievements commensurate with the concessions? An amnesty, a pardon, the ranking social and political position granted to the guerrillas through certain personal interviews, the dissemination of their viewpoints in the media -- can these be deemed equal to their return to civilian life without giving up their weapons and without making any new advance toward peace dependent on laws decreed solely by Congress? A truly fair and realistic assessment puts the balance in the red. More was granted than was gained.

The Liberal position was realistic. We would have been happier if it had been the official position. The appointments were made personally by the president, but citizens like Dr German Zea, Rafael Rivas Posada, or the dignataries of the House or Senate cannot put aside their status as party leaders, on the one hand, or spokesmen of the parliament, on the other. This duality is not compatible with their functions on the commission. The Liberals had a very important reason for not accepting. The government refrained from appointing any of its representatives, although it did give the commission power to call any member of the government or representatives of associations or parties to participate in the deliberations. President Betancur did not officially designate anyone to represent the executive cabinet.

Time will go by and the public will begin to decide who is to blame for what will happen. It is relevant to begin by recognizing the tenacious, bold, and even passionate position of President Betancur. If he is wrong, as some say, history will judge him. However, for the moment, Dr Betancur has escaped that traditional, emphatic trend in Colombian political history in which the president is the incarnation of all the good and bad of his government.

A numerical analysis of the makeup of this second commission easily indicates that with the well-known withdrawals, the leftists dominate the situation. Five liberals, five timid conservatives against the historical dialectics skillfully managed by Vieira [Communist Party secretary general Gilberto Vieira], the lyrical craftiness of Braulio Herrera, the scarcely neutral concepts of Agudelo Rios [Carlos Efren Agudelo Rios of the Workers Self-Defense Movement], the idelogical concepts of Rojas Puyo [Alberto Rojas Puyo of the Communist Party] -- who hurried to attend as a guest -- along with the candor bordering on stupidity of Emilio Urrea [Emilio Urrea Delgado of New Liberalism], will allow the decisions to be made on the basis of their prior actions. In its present form, the commission is the work of the devil, but of a devil that leans toward the hell containing the sinful souls of the subversives.

SENATE SCORES U.S. MEASURE, SUPPORTS GARCIA

PY012156 Paris AFP in Spanish 2045 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Lima, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Last night the Peruvian Senate unanimously approved a resolution protesting the economic aggression launched by the U.S. Government, which, it says, has declared Peruvian credit value impaired in an attempt to subject us to the IMF impositions. The Senate also decided to voice its unrestricted support for all government actions in connection with the foreign debt, so that the government may adopt a firm and strong attitude in response to the aggression.

APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] Senator Guillermo Larco Cox justified the draft resolution by saying that the U.S. measure will have to be met with more work and more production in order to curb inflation and reduce the fiscal deficit. Peru is the new victim -- after Cuba and Nicaragua -- of its own anti-imperialist position, he stressed. The resolution, which was supported by all the blocs -- the United Left, the Christian Popular Party, and Popular Action -- also calls upon the Latin American people and governments, and the Peruvian people in particular, to express solidarity with and support for the Peruvian Government and its anti-imperialist struggle.

Two days ago, the Chamber of Deputies unanimously approved a similar resolution. According to the local press, the deputies condemned the U.S. attitude in an unusually harsh way.

Several economic, political, business, and intellectual sectors have closed ranks in response to the U.S. aggression and are permanently conveying their support to the government of President Alan Garcia. Many of them have asked that the government take a strong stand in its dealings with the United States.

Economist Oscar Ugarteche said today: The government should immediately declare a moratorium on our debt, because there is no other solution. Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes, a Socialist Party member, referred to the U.S. measure as economic aggression and asked all Peruvians to unite and adopt an anti-imperialist position.

Senator Armando Villanueva del Campo, the APRA secretary general, has called upon the Peruvian people to stage a public rally to reject the U.S. Government's economic aggression. The U.S. decision shows how imperialism, in an increasingly subtle way, is using its economic power to make peoples like ours give in, Villanueva said. The Peruvian foreign debt amounts to approximately $14 billion. Overdue interests, which prompted the U.S. measure, amount to some $200 million. Peru has received some $2.5 billion in loans from U.S. banks.

LIMA MAYOR CALLS FOR ANTI-U.S. DEMONSTRATION

PY020052 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2313 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Lima, 1 Nov (EFE) -- As the Peruvian Senate today unanimously approved a resolution against the U.S. Government's economic aggression, the Lima Mayoralty organized a protest march for 3 November which will converge on the U.S. Embassy.

The word "aggression," which has time and again being used in the past few days in the mass media, is also included in the call issued by the Lima mayor's office, which is controlled by the United Left [IU], a coalition of Marxist parties.

The march, which will be led by Alfonso Barrantes, mayor of Lima and IU leader, will pass through downtown Lima and will end outside the U.S. Embassy.

CARTAGENA GROUP, AREA PARLIAMENT EXPRESS SUPPORT

PY011432 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0319 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Lima, 31 Oct (EFE) -- The Cartagena Consensus Board [Junta del Acuerdo de Cartagena] and the Latin American Parliament today expressed support for Peru and criticized the U.S. decision declaring the Peruvian foreign debt as value impaired.

Pedro Luis Echeverria, coordinator of the Cartagena Consensus Board which comprises the Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela, said in Lima that the U.S. banks' reclassification of Peru represents an incongruent and inconsistent aggression against a country that has declared its willingness to pay within its possibilities.

Peruvian Senator Andres Townsend, secretary general of the Latin American Parliament, which represents the congresses and national assemblies of 19 Latin American countries, said that no debt was ever collected by strangling the debtor, which was stated in a Latin American Parliament Executive Board Declaration in April 1984. Echeverria said those who are following Peru's economic development, among whom he counts himself, know that for Peru to pay the debt servicing with 10 percent of its export revenues requires a very great effort. The least the international banks could have done was to allow Peru to fulfill its obligations without exerting pressure on it, Echeverria added.

Echeverria reported that on 19 October the Andean reserves fund gave a $100-million credit to Peru, which demonstrates that Andean solidarity is giving Peru its support in these difficult times. He added that soon the countries of the region will issue a declaration on the behavior of the international banks toward Peru but the important thing is that all the Latin American countries have identified with the brave manner in which Peru is facing its debt problem.

Townsend said that in keeping with the declaration made last year and recently ratified in the special session of the Latin American Parliament in Montevideo, it was proposed to express the organization's solidarity with the protest of Peru and its Congress against being reclassified as value impaired. He reported that he is currently holding talks with Luis Leon, an Argentine and president of the Latin American Parliament, and with its vice president, Humberto Celli, from Venezuela, as well as with other members of the Executive Board, in order to summon an urgent meeting in Lima of the Latin American Parliament to effectively express regional support for Peru. Townsend recalled that it had been agreed in Montevideo to support the clear and energetic positions of the Latin American leaders on the foreign debt issue and in the face of the IMF's demands.

Meanwhile, the United Left [IU], a coalition of Marxist parties, today issued a call in Lima for a great national march to express rejection of the U.S. banks' classification of Peruvian credits as value impaired. IU Senator Genaro Ledesma, member of the IU Executive Board, reported that marches will take place simultaneously in the main Peruvian cities. He said that Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes, the president of IU, will be in charge of organizing the march in Lima to express rejection of U.S. aggression against Peru.

ALVA CASTRO SEES SHORT-TERM CREDIT UNHAMPERED

PY012059 Paris AFP in Spanish 2228 GMT 31 Oct 85

[By Jose Calmet]

[Text] Lima, 31 Oct (AFP) -- Peru's credit and short-term foreign trade lines will not be affected by the U.S. decision to classify as value impaired a portion of the debt which is in arrears, Luis Alva Castro, the prime minister and economy minister, asserted here today. He added that Peru's short-term foreign loans for trade and industry amount to $290 million, of which only one-third were extended by U.S. banks. The overall total of Peru's debt is $14 billion, and the part of the long- and medium-term public debt with U.S. commercial banks that are affected by this measure totals $1.05 billion, Alva said. He said: U.S. banks will be the biggest losers, since they must use reserves derived from their profits to cover up to 15 percent of the total Peruvian long- and medium-term debt, that is, $160 million.

Alva Castro denied the possibility that the U.S. banks affected by the decision of the Federal Banking Regulatory Board might freeze Peruvian accounts.

The new social democratic government of Peru, led by Alan Garcia, upon assuming power 3 months ago froze debt payments until the end of January 1986 and announced that from that date it would set aside 10 percent of Peru's annual export earnings -- about $35 million -- for paying the debt.

Alva Castro said that the Peruvian Government had given priority to an emergency program to reactivate production; stop inflation, which averaged 11 percent per month in the first half of 1985 but fell to 3 percent in September and October; and "dedollarize" the economy. Once we get good results, we will go on to negotiate with our creditors within the nation's possibilities, Alva asserted.

Exports Will Not Be Embargoed

PY011445 Lima Televisora Lima in Spanish 0415 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro tonight reiterated that Peruvian exports will not be embargoed as a consequence of the declaration that Peru is a value impaired country for not paying its foreign debt.

[Begin Alva Castro recording] The interagency committee must forward a note to the Steering Committee, that is, to the advisory committee representing the creditor banks. We have not yet received any information. We understand, of course, that Peru will not be notified because this is a problem between the U.S. Administration and the U.S. banks. What I can state is that the debt contracted with the U.S. banks has been value impaired for a long time.

When President Alan Garcia was at the United Nations, he said that as far as the Peruvian foreign debt to the U.S. commercial banks is concerned, it is already a value impaired debt. So, this is not new for us. We are all aware of this. [end recording]

MINISTER SAYS ANTITERRORIST ACTION SUCCESSFUL

PY020150 Paris AFP in Spanish 2137 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Lima, 1 Nov (AFP) -- Minister of War General Jorge Flores said today that Shining Path members are deserting because of the successful results of the new military strategy being implemented in the emergency zone, where subversive activities have been reduced by 80 percent. During a brief conversation with reporters at Jorge Chavez International Airport, Gen Flores said that the new military strategy, which is based on political, socioeconomic, and psychological factors, is yielding its first results. In fact, a remarkable pacification has been achieved in Ayacucho and Huanta, which are two guerrilla strongholds, he stressed. He also said that the Shining Path, a Maoist guerrilla group, receives weapons from foreign countries. Although such weapons are neither advanced nor sophisticated, it is now known how they are introduced into our country, he added.

Asked about Shining Path founder and leader Abimael Guzman, also known as Comrade Gonzalo, Flores replied that his whereabouts remain unknown.

The minister was very optimistic about the total pacification of the emergency zone in the short term. Twenty-nine Peruvian provinces have been declared in a state of emergency because of the guerrilla activities that began more than 5 years ago in Ayacucho, 575 km from Lima, and which have already claimed more than 7,000 lives.

$100-MILLION COOPERATION PACT SIGNED WITH FRG

PY011401 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0145 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] The government has signed a technical and financial cooperation agreement with the FRG for 220 million marks. An important financial cooperation agreement between Peru and the FRG was signed at noon today. The agreement was signed by Prime Minister and Economy Minister Luis Alva Castro and FRG Ambassador Hans Werner Loeck.

Through this agreement, the FRG intends to grant 220 million marks, some $100 million, to Peru. This money is intended for development of agricultural, health, and education programs, and especially for the (Chequetepeque Estana) irrigation program, which will directly benefit the three northern departments of La Libertad, Lambayeque, and Cajamarca. According to membersof the FRG delegation, the loan was granted in consideration of the positive measures adopted by the Peruvian Government.

[Begin Werner Loeck recording] Our country maintains a long-standing tradition of friendship and development cooperation with Peru. I can tell you that FRG Minister for Economic Cooperation Jurgen Warnke was here for the inauguration of President Alan Garcia. On that occasion he told President Garcia that we are willing to continue with that cooperation, which is of interest to Peru, and to continue expressing interest in the development of democracy in Peru. [end recording]

BRIEFS

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN -- Ambassador Jose Carlos Mariategui has left for Geneva to assume the post of Permanent Peruvian Representative to the UN European Bureau. Mariategui will head the Peruvian mission charged with handling human rights, disarmament, and world peace issues. [Excerpt] [Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 2345 GMT 27 Oct 85 PY]

SANGUINETTI RAPS 'VIOLENT MINORITY GROUPS'

PY010233 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0108 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Canelones, 31 Oct (EFE) -- President Julio Maria Sanguinetti today said that most of the people support the government and warned that those now trying to obtain through force what they did not get through votes are not helping to strengthen democracy.

Sanguinetti today spoke in public for the first time since he overcame a political and congressional crisis on Tuesday. The president harshly attacked violent minority groups during a visit to Canelones, 60 km north of Montevideo. He also talked about opposition lawmakers who tried to censure Interior Minister Carlos Manini Rios but were satisfied with a meaningless declaration when the government decided to resort to the constitutional provisions that allow it to dissolve Congress and call elections within 8 weeks.

Sanguinetti said that the greater the obstacles, the firmer and calmer we shall be; the greater the lack of understanding, the greater our tolerance will be. You can rest assured that this government will never resort to blind violence; it will always call upon the supreme recourse which is the people's will, the president added.

Further on Speech

PY010318 Paris AFP in Spanish 0203 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Canelones, 31 Oct (AFP) -- The Uruguayan Government will not play the game of extremists because that is how democracy dies, and it is prepared to reinstate a multiparty dialogue in the quest for solutions to the country's problems, President Julio Sanguinetti said today in Canelones, a city 60 km north of Montevideo.

In a speech dealing with current problems, the chief executive said that the intolerance of the extreme left seeks to push us into a right-wing position and hopes to compel us through its aggressions to resort to authoritarian methods. He stressed in this regard that we want them to know that we will not resort to arbitrary use of power, but at the same time we will not give up our authority under any circumstances or on any terms whatsoever.

Sanguinetti reveiwed the tense political situations, the academic problems, and the frictions with the labor unions, and warned intolerant groups that the government will react by carrying out its duties in strict compliance with the law.

Sanguinetti also emphasized the achievements of his administration in the fields of institutionalization, finance, the anti-inflation struggle, and social assistance, and advocated the need to refinance Uruguay' foreign debt (approxiamtely $4.7 billion). In this regard, he indicated that Uruguay is following the course of action of all Latin American democratic nations because no democratic administration has refused to pay, nor for that matter has any Marxist regime.

He said that he understood the demands and protests of the labor unions but not the intolerance and anger at a time when the purchasing power of their salaries is recovering even though the GDP has not yet begun to grow.

The chief executive rapped recent occupations of schools and reaffirmed that law, not bullying will prevail in the management of academic affairs. He also termed absurd the political storm unleashed over the eviction at one of the schools where a deputy of the left-wing Broad Front, the third most important political force of the country, was attacked by the police. As may be recalled, this situation gave rise to charges of violation of legislative immunity, which in turn led this week to a controversial interpellation of the interior minister.

Sanguinetti concluded by saying that everyone must realize that the government is flexible in its quest for solutions but there are limits to everything; minorities cannot impose their ideology, because if the people have voted against them in favor of democracy, then democracy should prevail.

FA WANTS PRESIDENTIAL POST INCLUDED IN ELECTIONS

PY021825 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0322 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 1 Nov (TELAM-REUTER) -- In a move that Uruguayan political circles described as bold, the Broad Front [FA] -- a coalition of Uruguayan leftist parties -- today challenged President Julio Maria Sanguinetti to include his own post in the government's proposal for an election to renew the Uruguayan Congress. The statement, the strongest issued by the FA since the installation of a democratic government in Uruguay, has worsened the confrontation between the centrist Colorado government and the two major opposition groups.

The Blanco Party, the second political party in the country, has stated that it will not recognize the authority of Interior Minister Carlos Manini Rios, who has provoked the worst political crisis since 1 March 1985, when the inauguration of the current democratic government put an end to a decade of military rule. This morning, the Blanco Party newspaper described as irresponsible the presidential decision to retain Manini Rios in his post.

ECUADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON STRENGTHENING ALADI

PY022213 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0131 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Nov (EFE) -- Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Edgar Teran today stated in Montevideo that his country wants ALADI to be strengthened in order to facilitate cooperation in the region. As official guest of the Uruguayan Government, Teran was received in a special session of the ALADI board. Montevideo is the permanent seat of ALADI.

Teran said that his country is completely willing to contribute to the strengthening of this organization in order to find new and better trade methods and to increase cooperation among countries. We think of Latin America as a single geopolitical continent, bearing its own cultural and historical identity, but it unfortunately still has not found its proper place in the contemporary world, Teran said.

Teran was received by Uruguayan Vice President Enrique Tarigo and Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, with whom he analysed the regional problems, the foreign debt, and above all, the break in relations with Nicaragua, since Uruguay is now handling their mutual affairs. Teran also participated in the first session of the joint Uruguayan and Ecuadoran coordination and cooperation commission. On Sunday, the final day of his visit to Uruguay, Teran will be given a luncheon by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti after which he will return to Ecuador.

RENEGOTIATION, NOT MORATORIUM ON DEBT SUGGESTED

PA022120 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] In regard to the Mexican foreign debt, neither a unilateral moratorium nor total payment is possible; the only feasible solution is a renegotiation of the debt, Undersecretary of Finance Francisco Suarez Davila said yesterday.

The undersecretary of finance met with the Finance Commission of the Chamber of Deputies to explain the foreign debt policy that the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit is pursuing. During a long working session, Suarez Davila explained that the foreign debt is a political problem that requires the participation of the indebted countries, banks, international organizations, and the creditor countries. The foreign debt is unpayable, he said, but its renegotiation is feasible and the Government of Mexico is looking toward renegotiation rather than confrontation. Thus, our country is attempting to bring down interest rates and insists on a trade-debt-financing relationship, which can only be achieved through a political dialogue between the debtor and creditor countries. Suarez Davila explained that the country's debt has existed for the last 40 years, and that it is not in any way responsible for the crisis.

FOREIGN DEBT PAYMENTS CAUSING CAPITAL FLIGHT

FL021838 Mexico City MOTIMEX in Spanish 2320 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 1 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Francisco Suarez Davila, assistant finance secretary of Mexico, today said the capital flight is due to amortization of the private debt, approximately totalling $1 billion in 1985. He stressed that the foreign debt had decreased from 35.9 percent in 1982 to 32 percent this year. The official said an improvement has been recorded in the relationship between debt servicing and income from exports of goods and services.

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DENIES MEXICO TO JOIN GATT

FL310417 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0056 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 30 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development Hector Hernandez Cervantes today denied that Mexico has decided to join the GATT or that the Mexican Government has begun negotiations to that effect. Hernandez Cervantes indicated that during the next round of negotiations of the countries which compose the GATT, Mexico will only participate as an observer, as it has been doing for the last 25 years.

On the other hand, Arturo Zavala Colome, president of the National Association of Importers and Exporters (ANIERM), said Mexico's membership in the GATT is a very important step in overcoming the economic crisis the country is going through -- though that is not the only way. Finally, Zavala Colome praised the work the Mexican Republic's Senate is doing because it really is carrying out a public survey to determine if there are any advantages in joining the GATT, if it could improve foreign trade.

Senate Studying GATT Membership

FL021806 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1445 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The decision to join GATT will be made by the Mexican Government.

The decision will be based on the best interests of the nation, said Mexican legislator Miguel Borge Martin, coordinator of a poll on GATT membership being conducted by the Mexican Senate.

During a press conference, Borge Martin said 10 meetings have been held with several sector representatives, who expressed their views very carefully, because what GATT represents is being examined thoroughly. He said that any decision in reference to GATT is linked to important aspects of Mexico's international economy relations, such as foreign debt management and foreign investments. He noted that there is a general consensus that Mexico cannot compete with all commodities on a worldwide basis. This makes it necessary to be cautious in selectivity in case the GATT membership is approved.

Borge Martin said the poll should be tentatively finished by 11 or 12 November, and regional representation will be sought.

Economist Opposes Joining GATT

FL012321 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Mexico City, Nov 1 (NOTIMEX) -- The GATT does not guarantee Mexico special or better treatment considering its development level, National College of Economics Chairman Roberto Davila Gomez Palacios has said. Gomez Palacios participated in the consultation from which the Senate of the Republic has been hoping to learn the opinion of various social sectors about joining the GATT.

The economist explained that there are few real advantages in joining the GATT. Inasmuch as most of the tariff benefits are within the preferential frameworks adopted by wealthy countries to the detriment of the less developed ones.

The chairman of the economists' organization said the GATT is incapable of halting the generalized increase of tariff and non-tariff barriers that the countries generating the greatest amount of trade impose. He explained that Argentina and Chile conducted a shock economic policy -- that is, without progression -- and they had to reconsider when a big part of their native industries disappeared and were substituted by foreign enterprises. Mr Gomez Palacios asserted that progression is a concept typical of a mature country with solid institutions like ours, and for this, it should not join the GATT. This would mean the sudden collapse of small and medium industries.

Finally, he indicated that Mexico's influence in the GATT would be minimal because export capabilities of member countries declines instead of increasing and the main measure would be to implement an industrial policy to increase productivity at the international level.

17 POLICEMEN, 4 DRUG TRAFFICKERS DIE IN AMBUSH

PA032202 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Seventeen policemen and four drug-traffickers died today in Veracruz, near (Goajaca). The drug-traffickers had set up an ambush. The policemen were confiscating a marijuana shipment when they were attacked by surprise. According to initial reports, eight of the police casualties were Federal Judicial Police agents, the other nine were judicial policemen of the State of Veracruz. Jesus Cabrera Guerras, commander of the Federal Judicial Police, has been identified among the dead.

PRISONER IMPLICATED IN DEA AGENT'S MURDER ESCAPES

PA302010 Paris AFP in Spanish 1545 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Oct (AFP) -- The deputy of narcotics trafficker Rafael Caro Quintero -- presumably responsible for last February's killing of a U.S. narcotics agent -- Jose Contreras Subias, escaped from prison in the northern city of Tijuana 5 days ago, the police have reported today. The escape, which reactivated the Caro Quintero cause, one of the most spectacular in the history of Mexican drug trafficking, was carried out with the complicity of three guards.

Police Commander Rafael Rubio said that on 25 October Contreras Subias disappeared. He disappeared as he was being transferred by the person in charge of the Tijuana prison, on the U.S. border, and two guards to a court to testify on the drug trafficking charges in which he is implicated.

In view of his escape, the police redoubled vigilance in the city as well as at airports and highways of northern Mexico and requested U.S. assistance in view of the attempt by Contreras Subias to escape to that country.

The fugitive had been arrested with Caro Quintero in Costa Rica last 19 May following a vast police and military operation launched by Mexican authorities in the wake of the killing of U.S. agent Enrique Camerena Salazar and Mexican pilot Alfredo Zavala in Guadalajara.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE MEETS BRIEFLY WITH DELVALLE

PA032200 Panama City Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1503 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Following the conclusion of the official ceremonies scheduled for All Souls Day [2 November], Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle traveled to Chiriqui with a small number of officials to meet with Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, who was at the border inaugurating several works and initiating several programs.

Monge said: "I arrived here today to give land titles to 270 peasants in the border area as part of a program to turn as many peasants as possible into landowners, insofar as our resources allow, because we believe in this as a foundation for strengthening our democracy and social peace. Once Panamanian authorities learned of my presence here at the border -- thank God this border remains peaceful and friendly -- I was invited to this meeting with President Delvalle. As it would take only a few minutes, I came gladly. We have discussed bilateral matters of common interest."

The meeting of the two presidents took place in David. Delvalle and Monge talked at length about bilateral matters of common interest and Central American and international problems. They also discussed the Spadafora case, which has caused deep concern in the two countries. The presidents agreed to seek the necessary mechanisms for Costa Rican and Panamanian authorities to continue working in a coordinated way and complete the investigation, Monge stressed.

"We discussed the need for something more formal, such as a cooperation agreement, between appropriate organizations of the two countries in order to conclude the investigation and clarify the Spadafora case, which has naturally produced [words indistinct]."

Regarding coordination between the two countries' investigating organizations, Monge added: "It will be necessary for the attorney general's office and the other organizations that deal with such cases to cooperate with each other and work together in order to complete the investigation. I know that Panamanians are keenly interested in the solution of this case. I can also assert that Costa Ricans share this same feeling, although perhaps not as intensely, as can well be understood."

Finally, Monge greeted Panamanians on the occasion of the commemoration of their independence anniversary: "I hereby express my warm and brotherly greetings to the Panamanian people during the anniversary of their independence. After so many years of brotherhood and fraternity, we can now say that we feel happy to have Panama as our neighbor."

NORIEGA LEAVES FOR 'MEDICAL CHECKUP' IN U.S.

PA021433 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 2 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] Defense Forces Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega left yesterday morning, Friday, for the United States, EXTRA has learned from reliable sources.

Noriega, who suffered an acute attack of hysteria on Wednesday and was hospitalized at the Paitilla Medical Center, left the country at approximately 0700. Other reports add that the top military chief left for the north to undergo a medical checkup.

Meanwhile, it has been reported unofficially that the officer, whose image has seriously deteriorated as a result of the Hugo Spadafora case, had to be taken to Paitilla Medical Center following a heated discussion at the Central Garrison, but this report has not been confirmed.

The officer travelled in the company of his security staff, who were all given U.S. visas. The visas were delivered to the officers on Thursday. It is believed that Noriega went to Houston, Texas.

The image of the Defense Forces has deteriorated in recent months. The situation has been worsening since the 1984 elections, when the fraudulent results favored the later ousted President Nicolas Ardito Barletta.

MILITARYMEN, PRD ACCUSED OF ENDANGERING PEACE

PA021902 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 28 Oct 85 p 4

["The Note of the Day" column]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan's speech at the UN General Assembly last week might be described as one based on the desire to maintain peace in the world. Reagan said on that occasion that the world will sleep more safely once missiles lose their political and military usefulness. The mission of leaders is to preserve human lives, and Reagan knows this. This is why he desperately seeks to preserve peace by eliminating the obstacles that emerge in his path because, as he noted at the United Nations, "peace is a divine mandate." Peace is the holy shadow projected by those men who walk along the path of virtue." [quotation marks as published]

In Panama, where the government should make every effort to keep the feeble peace that currently exists from being completely disrupted, it is precisely the government and the men in uniform who carry out and sponsor all kinds of demonstrations to provoke the Panamanian people, to disrupt peace, and to enable the current leaders to continue benefitting from the state without anything or anyone keeping them from carrying out their misdeeds and raids on public funds.

The men in uniform and the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] speak of peace, but the peace they seek to impose on us seeks to silence us; it is peace, and Reagan described it, "based on fear," and that is not true peace. We Panamanians want peace based on respect and harmony rather than on what is convenient for those currently in the government with the support of the military hierarchy.

BUSINESS LEADER DECRIES 'OUTBREAKS OF TERRORISM'

PA022327 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 31 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] "Panama, a country that by nature and tradition has been free of the instability of the fratricidal struggles that are being waged in the countries on the Central American isthmus, has nevertheless begun to experience the first outbreaks of institutionalized terrorism, and today my country is clamoring for justice in order to continue living in peace."

These were the words of Gilbert Mallol, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture of Panama, during a speech yesterday in Seville, Spain, at the second Iberian-American business convention.

At the convention, entitled "Central America -- Crossroads of Freedom," Mallol said that in "Central America our chambers of commerce have often filled vacuums left by political parties, which obviously gives us moral authority to rise in defense of our national interest, not only our commercial interests or the interests of our members."

Mallol added that "it is necessary to note that our resolution and determination to conserve the free enterprise system, the system of private initiative, have also led us to reject the populist political and economic plans that dictatorial, undemocratic regimes have professed for many years; as a result, private enterprise has been in a constant battle to defend entrepreneurial freedom."

"It is necessary to stop taking only temporary measures, it is necessary for the private sector and our peoples to be offered real incentives that compensate for the unemployment and social cost of dismantling exhorbitant state bureaucracies and for high military expenditures. Within the short-term, this will cause resentment, but over the long-term it will generate the bases of our nation's true economic development through private initiative," Mallol said.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ ON EFFORTS TO MEDIATE WITH NICARAGUA

PA010345 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Relations Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has said that a number of proposals aimed at normalizing relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua have been submitted through third parties. He did not specify the country of origin of those persons because he was not authorized to do so, but he admitted knowing about the efforts. He noted, however, that no concrete agreements have been reached.

Gutierrez added that the Costa Rican Government's position of keeping relations with Nicaragua frozen until the Sandinist government presents appropriate apologies has not changed.

The Contadora Group may be making these efforts. Although Foreign Minister Guterriez did not admit it explicitly, it may be asserted that some members of the Contadora Group have made the efforts with the Costa Rican Government to get it to normalize its relations with Nicaragua.

Gutierrez asserted that he knows which official is supplying the information that was published today in the Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR, but said that it would be best to ask that person about the status of the efforts. The foreign minister has said repeatedly that there has been no change in Costa Rica's position and that until appropriate explanations are received from Nicaragua and it assumes responsibility for the deaths of two civil guardsmen at Las Crucitas, relations will remain unchanged.

Further Report

PA011910 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Negotiations that third parties are carrying out to improve Costa Rican-Nicaraguan relations do not necessarily have to have the approval of the government, said Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez during a news conference this afternoon.

Gutierrez said that he agrees that Nicaragua must give an explanation to Costa Rica regarding the Las Crucitas events on 31 May in the border area. He said that he, personally, has been in favor of such talks whenever they have been aimed at establishing Costa Rica's demands and delineating the explanations.

Gutierrez said that the Costa Rican Government has never sought help from anyone in resolving the differences with Nicaragua, therefore denying that there are Costa Ricans among the negotiating third parties.

However, Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that in spite of the fact that the negotiations have not been promoted by the government, the administration should listen to the third parties since they are involved in a situation that directly affects the country.

Gutierrez said that no contact has been established with any third party, but noted that if he is approached he has no reason for refusing to receive them. The foreign minister said that there is nothing wrong in third parties wanting to help resolve the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan problem, as very worthy people are promoting the arrangement.

He denied that the stability of the Contadora Group could be endangered by the activities of these negotiations by third parties since the group is a multilateral arrangement for facing the Central American crisis. He said that the current situation is similar to the Manzanillo, Mexico, situation, when Nicaragua and the United States met to negotiate on several occasions based on a Mexican initiative.

Council Views Relations

PA021826 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Report by Gretel Tinoco]

[Text] The Government Council in its regular Wednesday session this morning discussed simple procedural matters of public administration. Regarding correspondence, the Government Council was very active, and according to Information Minister Armando Vargas, the Government Council's spokesman, many letters have been received from several government institutions asking for certain things and thanking the government for others.

Subsequently, there was some confusion here with regard to certain comments by Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, who has admitted that diplomatic sectors of third countries have exchanged proposals with the Nicaraguan regime in order to try to normalize its relations with Costa Rica. There have also been some reports that in the Mexican press, specifically in the newspaper EXCELSIOR, there is an item stating that the Costa Rican Government, or rather several Costa Rican Government officials, have made six proposals to try to find a harmonious solution to the bilateral problems with Nicaragua.

It was also reported that Deputy Foreign Minister Gerardo Trejos, who is currently in Taiwan, had said in several social and (?private) meetings that there have been meetings between third [as heard] Costa Rican Government officials and Nicaraguan authorities. However, the information and communications minister has said emphatically that the terms of President Monge's speech on 2 June on the freeze in relations with Nicaragua are still applicable. He has also said that 48 hours ago the Presidency of the Republic issued a communique specifying the current state of relations with Nicaragua and the policies that the government continues to follow based on requesting an apology from Nicaragua for the aggression at Las Crucitas on 31 May, in which two civil guardsmen were killed and nine were injured.

These rumors that have circulated in the presidential palace are mere speculation, according to Information Minister Armando Vargas, and the government's foreign policy cannot be based on speculation. He said that some sectors of the local press are trying to turn lies into truth in relation to the problem between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. He denied that any attempt has been made to hold talks between Nicarguan and Costa Rican officials. He said that no government official has been authorized by President Monge or by the foreign minister to make any kind of contact to try to revive the relations that have been frozen since June of this year. Information and Communications Minister Vargas expressed his views on this controversy that has been generated in relation to possible secret meetings between Costa Rican and Nicaraguan officials:

[Begin Vargas recording] Any announcement made on this subject will be made at the proper time by the foreign minister. Meanwhile, the Monge administration reiterates that the president's speech on 2 June continues to be the Costa Rican Government's only posiiton on bilateral relations with Nicaragua.

The Costa Rican Government, through the president of the Republic, made it known on 2 June that the Nicaraguan Government owes the Costa Rican Government an apology for the incident at Las Crucitas, and it must assume political responsibility for the deaths of two civil guardsmen, for the fact that nine others were injured, and for a violation of Costa Rica's territorial integrity and political sovereignty. That position has not changed; it remains the same, regardless of what the press says. [end recording]

The information minister said that for the Costa Rican Government to accept a Nicaraguan apology, it must comply with all the requirements put forward by President Monge during his speech on 2 June. He said any Costa Rican could listen to President Monge's speech on 2 June. The video cassettes have been kept along with recordings of the speech, or one can obtain information from the Information Office at the Presidential House. However, journalists have maintained that some officials, among them the foreign minister and the deputy foreign minister, have admitted that some contacts have taken place, if only through third country diplomats.

Armando Vargas strongly denied that these talks have taken place or will take place without the authorization of President Monge. He was also also questioned on the decision regarding the case of former President Jose Figueres, which has been mentioned in national press. The information minister said that in the next few hours or by the end of this week, the presidency of the Republic will issue a statement on the subject. We must note that the presidency has kept this issue pending for some time now and has always said that in the next few hours a decision would be given; however, it has never been announced. We will be waiting for the final decision this week on the case of former President Figueres and his appointment as roving ambassador. These have been the issue most emphasized during the Government Council meeting and during the subsequent press conference by Information Minister Armando Vargas Araya.

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT SILENT ON REBEL DIPLOMATIC POUCH USE

PA031916 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2210 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Up until this afternoon the Salvadoran Government had yet to express an opinion on the fact that the Spanish diplomatic pouch has been used in the past by Salvadoran guerrillas. Because today is a holiday, no authorized individual could be found to express the Salvadoran Government's opinion on the sporadic use that was made of the diplomatic pouch.

Colonel Carlos Armando Aviles, chief of the Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa), told ACAN-EFE that since this was a "purely diplomatic subject it will be up to the government or the Foreign Ministry to make a statement on the matter." He added that the Army refrains from commenting on the case.

Inocencio Arias, general director of the Spanish Diplomatic Information Office (OID), said in Madrid today that the Spanish diplomatic pouch had been used in the past by people linked to the Salvadoran guerrillas for humanitarian reasons.

The Madrid newspaper EL PAIS today published a report attributed to unofficial diplomatic and political sources of both countries indicating that Salvadoran guerrillas have used the Spanish diplomatic pouch for their communications in the past few years.

The OID general director told the EFE news agency that the Spanish diplomatic pouch has never been used as a communications means by the FMLN as such, but he admitted that in the past its use by relatives of missing Salvadorans was permitted for humanitarian reasons.

The Spanish diplomat mentioned the specific cases of several letters from mothers of missing people sent to Spain through the diplomatic pouch by the embassy in El Salvador.

The Committee of Mothers of Political Prisoners, Missing, and Murdered People in El Salvador today told ACAN-EFE that to date none of the women of that organization have used the Spanish diplomatic pouch to send mail.

A member of the committee said that there is no reason why they should use the Spanish diplomatic pouch for their letters because they do not have any relatives in Spain and that when they have addressed international humanitarian organizations they have done so through the postal service.

She said that if some mothers of missing people have used the Spanish diplomatic pouch to send letters to Spain, they must be individuals who are not members of the Committee of Mothers and Relatives of Political Prisoners, Missing, and Murdered People in El Salvador.

DUARTE TO DEMAND RELEASE OF KIDNAPPED OFFICIALS

PA022139 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1954 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Nov (DPA) -- Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte will demand that the guerrillas release 10 municipal officials who were not delivered to the International Red Cross on 24 October, it has been learned from government sources.

The president, who is visiting the United States, will present the request to the Salvadoran Catholic Church, the International Red Cross, and the diplomatic corps in the country when he returns and will ask them to carry out efforts so that the rebels fully abide by the agreement to release the hostages.

Deputy Minister of Culture and Information Ricardo Viera said last night on television that the government is interested in maintaining a humane position in the face of these cases.

He explained that it is not nine mayors that the guerrillas have not returned, but instead only the mayor of a town in Morazan, (in the eastern part of the country), one alderman of Uluazapa, and approximately eight more officials, including drivers, municipal police, and employees of the Cacaopera municipality, Morazan Department.

He emphasized that the pending cases are being discussed with the International Red Cross and the Salvadoran Catholic Church, and it is expected that their mediation will help to obtain the release of the persons still being held by the guerrillas.

GOVERNMENT CONFIRMS AVALOS HELD BY FMLN

PA022314 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2057 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 2 Nov (EFE) -- The Salvadoran Government acknowledged today that Civil Aeronautics Director Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos, who was kidnapped 8 days ago, is in the guerrillas' hands.

Roberto Viera, Salvadoran deputy culture and communications minister, said that the government has learned that the FMLN kidnapped the military official. However, he added that to date there has been no contact with the kidnappers, whose proposals and demands for Col Avalos' release are unknown. According to Viera, the policy to be followed will be determined when President Jose Napoleon Duarte, who is on an official trip in the United States, returns.

Release Not Expected Soon

PA022151 Paris AFP in Spanish 2007 GMT 2 Nov 85

[By Carlos Samayoa]

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 2 Nov (AFP) -- Political observers believe that the kidnapping over a week ago of Civil Aeronautics Director Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos has not received the attention which the kidnapping of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte's daughter did, and, in fact, a lack of interest in government spheres is detected.

A week after the kidnapping no group has claimed responsibility for the action, but military sources feel that the guerrillas perpetrated it and that this could be the start of a string of similar actions aiming to "corner" the Jose Napoleon Duarte regime. The Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa] said that, as in the Ines Duarte kidnapping -- she was kidnapped on 10 September and released 44 days later -- it will not be handling information on this case; it will be in channeled through the Culture and Communications Ministry.

According to eyewitness accounts, Avalos was kidnapped by 12 armed men on his farm near San Ramon, Cuscatlan Department, 30 km east of the capital, and apparently taken to the Chinchontepec Volcano area, in San Vicente Department.

Rodolfo Castillo Claramount, El Salvador's foreign minister and acting president, condemned this action but abstained from commenting on possible negotiations with the guerrillas to obtain Col Avalos' release. He said that President Duarte and the top command will make that decision, although political sectors believe that Avalos will meet the same fate as Colonel Francisco Castillo, former deputy defense minister, who remained in the hands of the guerrillas for 2 years before an exchange took place.

Avalos' kidnapping prompted urgent meetings of the top command to give instructions on new security strategies, in view of the looming threat of a wave of kidnappings of civil and military officers.

Meanwhile, there are growing protests from rightist sectors regarding the Ines Duarte kidnapping -- she was released in exchange for 22 political prisoners. These sectors are criticizing the negotiations the president engaged in with the guerrillas. Some publications from the rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) and some groups affiliated with it such as the Salvadoran Women's Front [Frente Femenino Salvadoreno], and the Crusade for Peace and Work, are viewed in political and diplomatic circles as clear appeals for a military uprising to topple Duarte.

These groups believe that the exchange carried out for Ines Duarte's release was a mockery of the Armed Forces and an insult to the people "who are suffering under the guerrilla's terrorism."

For its part, the Army is continuing its counterinsurgency operations in the country's northern and eastern areas, in an attempt to counter a guerrilla escalation of an electrical sabotage campaign that caused the downing high-tension towers, bringing about extended blackouts.

The country's weather conditions in the past 48 hours have not affected the military actions. Several clashes were reported in the north and east, leaving a casualty toll of several persons killed or injured on both sides.

Kidnappers' Identity Sought

PA010236 San Salvador DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 31 Oct 85 pp 2, 65

[Excerpt] An Armed Forces Military Intelligence Commission is trying to identify the individuals who kidnapped Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos last Saturday in San Pablo Farm, in San Ramon Cuscatlan.

Although it was said yesterday that the kidnappers belong to a cell of the FMLN, military intelligence wants to be sure about the identity of the members of this group.

MINISTRY CALLS FOR UNITY TO FACE TERRORISM

PA020333 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1619 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Communique issued in the form of a paid ad by the Ministry of Culture and Communications entitled: "A Call to National Conscience" -- date not given]

[Text] Political events of the past few days have brought about varied reactions ranging from the most radical and unyielding to the most understanding and prudent. Those actions have been creating an atmosphere of confrontation among Salvadorans, whose favorite target is the government. They intentionally ignore Salvadoran society's real enemy, which is delighted with these actions.

We all know that the FMLN assumed full leadership of extreme left groups to further their terrorist actions which take the form of kidnappings, murders, and destruction. To this end, they have the advice, logistical support, sponsorship, and direction of governments such as Cuba and Nicaragua, which serve as sanctuaries for the Salvadoran subversion.

They seek to destroy our budding democracy and undermine the democratic process promoted by the Salvadoran people and government that was legitimately established, and day after day they intensify the whirlwind that would allow them to reach power through an armed confrontation.

In view of the position assumed by the FMLN, there are two options: 1) One based on a similar concept involving a lack of respect for values and murder; and 2) one based on the humanization of the conflict aimed at destroying terrorism, kidnapping, and subversion by attacking the heart itself of an antihumanist enemy.

The Christian concept stating that man is born with rights and that the first one is his right to life and liberty and that we must strive to construct a society based on respect of the person as the origin and main activity of the state. [sentence as published] That is the humanist concept advocated by the Salvadoran people and government.

The strategy followed by the FMLN seeks to lead us to chaos, division, internal sectarian polarization, and finally, to a definitive destruction. In view of such a dreadful possibility, the people, the government, the Armed Forces, the political parties, and the labor unions, in sum, all sectors striving to save our country, must assume an attitude of national consolidation to face those strategies and ward off the danger.

The time to put aside temporary sectorial interests has come for the sake of the nation's supreme interest. This is the moment to base our work on things that unite us as opposed to those that divide us. This is the moment to build and not destroy, to defend our moral values and stress humanitarian concepts. This is the moment to fight terrorism with humanism.

The more united we are in our fight against a common enemy, we will be more sure that the humanization thesis will succeed. On the other hand, as more differences exist or are created among ourselves, we would be opening the door to the forces of subversion and terrorism even more.

For all these reasons, we make a call to the national conscience, a call to reflection and meditation, a call to patriotism. It is important to warn the people about the real danger threatening the nation; to gain full awareness of these efforts and support them with principles and actions in keeping with the current situation. We must inject more energy into this strong democracy promoted by the Salvadoran people. Terrorism is relentless, and we can only fight it united. That unity must be strengthened through the elimination of hatred, bitterness, and intolerance.

D'AUBUISSON REJECTS DESTABILIZATION CHARGES

PA012219 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Major Roberto D'Aubuisson has denied that his party, the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, is trying to destabilize the Christian Democratic government. Roxanna Lemus reports:

[Begin recording] [Lemus] We have heard from spokesmen of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, that you are trying to destabilize the government. What do you have to say about this?

[D'Aubuisson] That this is another lie and fallacy of these spokesmen, who are prominent demagogues within the PDC's hierarchy. Our position has never been to destabilize the current government. If we have told the truth, it is because things have happened that way. Our current stance is to support President Duarte's government in the patriotic sense. In other words, our slogan has always been El Salvador comes first, second, and third. We know that there is currently a power vacuum, that there is disorder, a crisis. So, our obligation now as a democratic entity or institution, and with the faith we have in the Salvadoran people... [changes thought] We are not thinking about destabilizing. On the contrary, we are thinking about consolidating in order to ensure survival in El Salvador. Now, because we tell them the truth, some PDC spokesmen come out saying that we are trying to destabilize the government.

[Lemus] There is speculation that there is a rift between you and the other ARENA leaders.

[D'Aubuisson] This is more speculation that the PDC has been circulating through some of its spokesmen. I can categorically affirm that now more than ever our great ARENA party is strongly united and defined. We have objectives and goals to achieve, and we have made progress at a national level.

[Lemus] There are doubts about whether ARENA participated in the meeting with President Duarte.

[D'Aubuisson] There should be no doubt. We did not attend the meeting. Regrettably, there were reports from the Presidency mentioning names of leaders of our great party who had supposedly attended this meeting last Tuesday, which even mentioned ARENA President Freddy Christian, who is currently out of the country; right now he is in Panama, on personal business.

[Lemus] What is ARENA's position regarding the country's problems?

[D'Aubuisson] The country's problems now are really serious. We are facing a tremendous crisis after the negotiations, and there was a leadership vacuum in the country during the contacts. We do not know how deeply the government committed itself during these negotiations with the terrorists. There are strikes as a result of the PDC's nonsense and stubborness with regard to Decree No 162. Some say this is destabilization -- as you said in your previous question -- but that is not so. They are the ones who make a blunder and then say that there are attempts to destabilize the government. In other words, we are facing a tremendous crisis -- a crisis of power, a power vacuum, an economic crisis.

As I said before, ARENA's stance is to support the government, for the sake of our homeland and our people. For this reason, we are waiting for President Duarte to return from his short trip, to invite him to a working session with the leaders of our great party, with the deputies, and with members of the production sectors, in order to present him with logical and reasonable proposals, so that he can move forward, so that he can reorganize strong government structures into a government that will truly represent El Salvador and what we are. We want El Salvador to recover the respect and international image that had been achieved to a certain degree with Duarte's presence but that has crumbled with the first difficult problem he had to solve.

So today all Salvadorans must work together to improve our international image and, of course, to consolidate our internal front, which has been badly damaged. This is our party's stance. We have already made it known to PDC spokesmen, and we have also announced it to the public. As I said, we are planning to have a working session. We hope that President Duarte will understand our message, which is well-intentioned, of good faith, of patriotism, and which, of course, is viable. [end recording]

GUATEMALA

DEFENSE FORCES ON ALERT DURING ELECTIONS

PA021824 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1755 GMT 2 Nov 85

[By Carlos Rodolfo Mobil]

[Text] Guatemala City, 2 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan Army, which has been fighting against the guerrillas for more than 20 years, is in a state of alert to guarantee the normal development of the elections to be held here tomorrow.

Colonel Marco Antonio Castellanos, Army spokesman, reported today that the Armed Forces have set up a special operation for protecting the citizens who will go to the polls. "All the military zones have received specific orders concerning the operation, which cannot be disclosed for obvious reasons," Castellanos said. The Army has 28 military zones distributed throughout the 22 departments of the country.

"I can tell you," he added, "that the Army and all of its branches of air, sea, and land are on permanent surveillance in order to guarantee the electoral process."

The official added that the Army's surveillance is reinforced by 10,000 policemen "who have been stationed in all corners of the country." The guerrillas, who are unified under the URNG, are advocating abstention and claim the elections are false. The rebels, who have been active in the mountains for over 20 years, have increased their operations during the last few weeks in order to hinder the elections.

Military sources said they have not ruled out the possibility that the rebels might try to carry out a spectacular action "to show the world they still exist."

The Army, which has ruled Guatemala since 1970, insists that the guerrillas are militarily defeated, although it admits "small groups" remain in some regions of the country.

The main presidential candidates participating in the elections have said that if they win, they will offer amnesty to the rebels, but at the same time they point out they will fight them with the military, if the guerrillas reject the offer.

The URNG is formed by the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP), the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA), the Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT), and the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR).

Voting Begins 'Without Problems'

PA031441 Paris AFP in Spanish 1320 GMT 3 Nov 85

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 Nov (AFP) -- The voting in the Guatemalan general elections began without problems at 0700 today with the opening of 5,142 polls distributed throughout the country's districts. Without any hurry, the voters began going to the polls, mostly located in schools, early this morning.

The experience obtained last year in the election of the Constituent Assembly has helped will fight everything ready in most of the voting precincts for the beginning of the voting at the time established by law.

Each voter receives three ballots: one for the municipal council, another for deputies, and a third for president. The last two include photographs of the candidates and the party symbols in realization that a large number of voters are illiterate.

Witthout any great display of their presence, the police are providing security. The Army, as it did last year during the Constituent Assembly elections, decided to show the greatest discretion. Each poll, which will receive an average of 535 voters, will be open until 1800.

The first partial results will be known on Sunday night but according to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, truly representative results will not be known until noon on Monday.

Polls Close, Situation 'Normal'

PA040238 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0032 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 3 Nov (DPA) -- Although some minor incidents that will not affect the elections have been reported, the general elections in Guatemala for president, vice president, 100 deputies to the Legislative Assembly, and 331 mayors concluded normally this afternoon at 1800.

Immediately afterwards, the municipal electoral boards in each municipality began the counting, the results of which will be computed in each of the 22 departments and then sent to the Supreme Elections Tribunal, TSE, in Guatemala City via telex, telephone, telegraph, or messenger, as the case may be. A computer will be fed data at the TSE and will give overall results for both the national and international media.

In the course of the day, some incidents and complaints were reported. The TSE, the highest authority in the matter, deemed them of minor importance. Such complaints included mistakes in the ballots for the election of a mayor and alleged propaganda for a party on the day of the election.

Mistakes occurred in the ballots for mayor in Joyabaj, in the northwestern department of Quiche. The TSE determined that this election will be repeated on 8 December.

The distribution of caps bearing the logo of EL GRAFICO newspaper, owned by presidential candidate Jorge Carpio Nicolle, was objected to by two political parties; the objection was dismissed by the TSE, which determined the propaganda was for the newspaper, not the candidate. A similar case was that of an advertisement published in a newspaper for a television newscast owned by another presidential candidate.

In addition, the Christian Democratic Party protested because in Santa Rosa, in the country's southeast, several military commissioners who serve the Army cast their ballots and forced others to cast theirs for a rightist party, it has been reported.

Christian Democrats pointed out that this violates the orders issued by the head of the government himself, who forbade the military to cast ballots and instead instructed them to be impartial during the election. The TSE is considering this charge.

In Solola Department, northwest of Guatemala City, instructions were given to conclude the casting of ballots 1 hour before the deadline established by the TSE because of rains. In Panzos, on the banks of the Polochic River in the country's northwest, the process was also suspended 1 hour ahead of schedule because of mosquitoes that invaded the area. This fact reveal the unhealthy nature of this tropical zone, where greater sanitary control is necessary.

The police have reported that, according to reports from various places in the country, no violent incidents or deeds have occurred during the elections.

DCG Maintains Lead

PA041320 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1238 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] According to the latest results released by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, the 848 polling tables of the metropolitan district, duly processed, could remain unchanged after their revision as follows:

For president: Guatemalan Christian Democracy (DCG) with 158,475 votes; Union of the National Center (UCN) with 81,334 votes; Democratic Party of National Cooperation-Revolutionary Party (PDCN-PR) with 54,655 votes.

Other political parties did not receive more than 35,000 votes. There were over 18,000 null votes and over 4,000 blank votes. In the metropolitan district, the results may remain unchanged.

At national level, the DCG is also winning with the following preliminary results, with over 173,000 votes, followed by the UCN with over 92,000 votes; in third place, the PCDN-PR with over 61,000 votes. The other parties have not received more than 46,000 votes. So far, over 23 percent of the votes have been counted.

D'AUBUISSON WARNS OF U.S. INFLUENCE IN ELECTIONS

PA021713 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1233 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Guatemala City, 1 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran ultrarightist leader Roberto D'Aubuisson has charged today that a U.S. official "specialized in transforming electoral results" is in Guatemala. D'Aubuisson arrived today in Guatemala City 2 days before the general elections slated for Sunday "because Guatemala is my second fatherland," he said.

The anticommunist leader charged that John Kelly, a U.S. State Department official who is allegedly in Guatemala, "played as he saw fit" with the results of the Salvadoran elections of 1984 and 1985, in which the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] won. D'Aubuisson described Kelly as a "gangster" and said that "if he gets involved here, this is going to be bad news."

Robert D'Aubuisson then said: "I do not know what John Kelly is doing here, but I can clearly tell you that he was bad news in El Salvador. He is a gangster who manipulated the results of the elections." Up until recently, D'Aubuisson was the top leader of the ultrarightist National Republican Alliance (ARENA). It was impossible to confirm tonight John Kelly's presence with the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City.

D'Aubuisson did not want to say what the reason for his visit to Guatemala is or if he has been invited by any political group. ARENA has many political ideas similar to those of the National Liberation Movement (MLN) of Guatemala led by anticommunist Mario Sandoval, who also has strong friendship ties with D'Aubuisson.

The Salvadoran politician did not wish to comment on the possibilities for next Sunday's elections in Guatemala, but he was extremely harsh about the Salvadoran Christian Democratic ruler.

The MLN and the Guatemalan Christian Democracy [DCG] are the strongest rivals in Sunday's elections.

"I cannot give you an opinion because this would be an intervention in the internal politics" of Guatemala, D'Aubuisson said, although he admitted he "liked" the "antisocialist causes in any part of the world."

The ultrarightist leader charged the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte with lending 200 official vehicles to the Guatemalan PDC to be used in the electoral campaign. He also said that 500 Salvadorans "paid by the Salvadoran Government" are helping in the DCG campaign, an action he described as "grotesque, negative, and antidemocratic."

Duarte Aid Alleged

PA030406 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora 1700 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] More than 500 activists and 200 Salvadoran Government vehicles are supporting the Guatemalan Christian Democratic Party in the elections to be held tomorrow, Sunday 3 November, Roberto D'Aubuisson, leader [as heard] of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, charged in Guatemala City. During a press conference held last night, D'Aubuisson said that he is in Guatemala City as an independent observer, as he has not been invited by either the government or any of the eight parties that will participate in the elections for president, which will be held tomorrow in Guatemala. The ARENA leader denounced the Salvadoran Government's involvement in the Guatemalan elections.

[Begin D'Aubuisson recording] More than 200 vehicles of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic government are here in Guatemala. In addition, more than 500 Salvadorans paid by the Salvadoran people are campaigning for the Christian Democratic Party here in Guatemala. This is absurd, negative, and antidemocratic, mainly because this is corruption. I have denounced this for some time. We have been struggling against this for quite a while. We gathered reliable eveidence and presented it in the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly and in all the news media. We have proved this. The vehicles that have been seen here in Guatemala City, as well as the campaign workers, are from El Salvador. This is embezzlement of funds. I agree that a christian democratic party from anywhere in the world can support similar parties from other countries. Governments cannot do this, however. The Salvadoran people have not authorized either Duarte or any other member of the Salvadoran Government to disburse funds in order to come to Guatemala to support a specific party. [end recording]

D'Aubuisson, however, did not dismiss ARENA's assistance to some of the contending parties.

[Begin D'Abuisson recording] If we make an effort to support a political party in Guatemala, we do it willingly and with our money, not with the funds of the Salvadoran people. There is a big difference. Let it be understood that it is the Christian Democratic government that involves the Salvadoran people in support for a political party. This is a very different situation. Salvadorans can lean toward any of the eight Guatemalan parties. [end recording]

The ARENA leader said that the party will unconditionally support President Duarte in order for him to stay within the democratic process. D'Aubuisson dismissed the possibility of a coup.

He opposed negotiations between the government and the guerrillas through which Ines Guadalupe Duarte -- the president's eldest daughter who was held captive 44 days by the rebels -- was recently released. He also denounced the presence in Guatemala of John Kelly, an official of the U.S. State Department, who, according to D'Aubuisson, was present at two elections in El Salvador. D'Aubuisson described him as a pirate gangster who specializes in altering election results.

HONDURAS

'SUICIDE COMMANDO GROUP' THREATENS SUAZO CORDOVA

PA011528 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] A suicide commando group, dissatisfied with recent incidents at the legislative chamber, prevented President Roberto Suazo Cordova from attending the closing session of the National Congress. The preventive measures were so strict that all access streets to the National Congress were closed as far away as the National Stadium. Vilma Malta de Gutierrez reports on the alleged attack:

[Begin recording] Since last night it has been rumored that there would be an attack at the National Congress. At 0100 we received orders from the president of Congress notifying us that no vehicles would be allowed to enter, [words indistinct] parking in the building, and that [words indistinct] at the National Stadium. If the Congress president said that, then that means something was going to happen. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the secretary of National Congress, Mario Enrique Prieto Alvarado, said he received a telephone call from a suicide commando group indicating there would be an attack against Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] [Prieto Alvarado] Yes, [words indistinct] that there would be an attack against the constitutional president of the Republic. We are engaged in the electoral process that will culminate in November, and logically this moves us to adopt all necessary measures to protect the life of our president.

[Unidentified questions] In spite of the fact that his presence was important in this [word indistinct]?

[Prieto Alvardo] [passage indistinct] In fact, it is a high honor for us to have the constitutional president of the Republic here in the Legislative Chamber, and all preventive measures were taken so that he could attend the closing session of this period of legislative sessions. However, in view of the circumstances that I have explained to you, the president (?decided not to take the risk).

[Question] But who called you? A man or a woman, who?

[Prieto Alvarado] I could not tell you right now, only that I received the call.

[Questions] What did they tell you?

[Prieto Alvardo] That there was a plot to assassinate the president of the Republic; that there was a suicide commando group that was willing to do it; and that we should be careful. That is all.

[Question] Do you not think that there are people who just like to alarm the people? That a bomb would be placed [words indistinct].

[Prieto Alvardo] Look, many times regrettable things happen when one thinks there is no reason to alarm people. Therefore, I repeat that in view of any circumstance that might affect the life of our president, we will adopt all measures to protect him. [end recording]

Listeners of La Voz de Honduras, you have just heard the statements made by Vilma Malta de Gutierrez, member of the Liberal Party of Honduras, and by Mario Enrique Prieto Alvarado, secretary of the National Congress of the Republic, who stated that President Dr Robert Suazo Cordova did not go to the National Congress as he feared for his life. For HRN, this has been Jose Danilo Izaguirre.

NICARAGUA

REAGAN ASKS CONGRESS FOR MORE SANCTIONS

PA020354 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has hypocritically lied to the Congress of his country in order to apply further economic sanctions against Nicaragua. At the wake of the 1 May 1985 trade embargo, Reagan justified the measure by telling the Congress that Nicaragua constituted a threat to the United States and that for that reason, this was an emergency for his Government.

However, the Congress conditioned the trade embargo to the export of products to Nicaragua so long as these products were ordered before 1 May 1985. Reagan must periodically submit to Congress an explanation for such a national emergency caused by the alleged threats from this small country, Nicaragua.

Yesterday, in a letter to Congress, Reagan confirmed that the United States is still facing a national emergency because of the Nicaraguan threat. He also requested all sorts of bans on any exports to our country from the United States, including commitments acquired before May 1985.

Trade Minister Comments

PA031318 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Report by Noel Fuentes at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry]

[Text] In a news conference that ended a few minutes ago at the Foreign Ministry, Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca said that 40 U.S. transnational companies will be seriously affected by the latest measure enacted by the Ronald Reagan government against Nicaragua. Minister Martinez Cuenca also said that the U.S. measure will also seriously affect Nicaragua's private sector within the framework of the mixed economy. He explained that the private sector and the transnational companies were the ones that had signed most of the contracts prior to the establishment of the economic embargo on 1 May 1985. As is known, Reagan cynically lied on 31 October, telling Congress that Nicaragua continues to be a threat to the U.S. security so that embargo against Nicaragua could be maintained, and so that the licenses obtained prior to 1 May 1985 should be totally suspended. Speaking on behalf of the Nicaraguan Government, Minister Martinez Cuenca stressed three main points:

[Begin recording] We see three essential things in this message [from Reagan to Congress]. First, the subterfuge of a state of emergency has been used, claiming, on the basis of a totally imbalanced and mistaken concept, that Nicaragua continues to be a threat to U.S. security. Our government has repeatedly and emphatically rejected this.

Second, it extends the period of the embargo by extending the emergency period that President Reagan said his country is facing. In this way, he continues to especially harm the Nicaraguan economy by vetoing the possibility that Nicaragua, as a member of the international community, might trade with all parts of the world, including the United States. This issue has already been brought before the international forum of the GATT. This action has also been rejected by the United Nations, the Security Council, SELA, and other international organizations that since 1 May have expressed their opposition to these sanctions. This new aggressive escalation has not only continued with the embargo but also includes the cancelling of any future that export license that might be issued as a result of the initial decree, which established any contract that was already in effect could be completed after the 6-month period. As a result of President Reagan's order, the U.S. Government has closed off that possibility. This reemphasizes that this is a new escalation by prohibiting the completion of any type of contract that might be in effect. [end recording]

Minister Martinez Cuenca said that Nicaragua will continue to use its international right to protest this escalated aggression by the U.S. Government at the international economic, political, and social forums. He also said that Nicaragua maintains its policy of trade diversification that was increased as a result of the embargo. He said that 25 percent of Nicaragua's trade is with the countries of West Europe, the socialist community, and Japan, among others. He said that a large percentage of Nicaragua's trade, agroexports, and imports are carried out with those countries. This has been a summary of the extensive news conference held by Foreign Trade Minister Martinez Cuenca at the Foreign Ministry.

SHLAUDEMAN DIALOGUE STANCE SEEN AS 'MEDDLING'

PA011838 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Cesar Delgadillo, of the Popular Social Christian Party, stated that what Harry Shlaudeman is doing is equivalent to interfering in the domestic affairs of Nicaragua. Delgadillo was commenting on Shlaudeman's statements in which he conditioned the U.S. dialogue with Nicaragua saying, among other things, that our government should immediately dissolve the National Assembly. We now have Cesar Delgadillo's statements via telephone:

[Begin recording] Mr Shlaudeman's statement in which he placed conditions on a dialogue with Nicaragua, saying that we should dissolve our National Assembly, is what I consider a meddling in Nicaragua's domestic affairs. There is no room for that. We should not take this into consideration because, in the first place, this assembly was elected by popular vote on 4 November, and second, this is an internal Nicaraguan issue and there cannot be any foreign intervention. [end recording]

Second Meeting Held

PA031356 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1750 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Washington -- Nicaraguan Ambassador Carlos Tunnerman has said in Washington that the U.S. Government does not have the least interest in holding a dialogue and that is why it has set preconditions that are unacceptable to Nicaragua. In a second meeting held yesterday with Harry Shlaudeman, the representative of the United States, Ambassador Tunnerman told the Reagan government that the preconditions are unacceptable to Nicaragua and that Nicaragua is not willing to discuss the legitimacy of the Nicaraguan Government with the counterrevolutionaries.

Ambassador Tunnerman stressed to Mr Shlaudeman that what the U.S. Government is proposing is offensive and that the Nicaraguan Government wants a serious and responsible dialogue without preconditions. It had been known that Nicaragua would not accept the U.S. proposal calling for the dissolution of the National Assembly and a dialogue with the counterrevolutionaries. Therefore, Reagan and his officials knew beforehand that Nicaragua rejects the possibility of such a dialogue, and this did not come as a surprise to the U.S. Government.

CONTENTS OF CHURCH NEWSPAPER IGLESIA REVEALED

PA020341 San Jose LA NACION (NICARAGUA HOY Supplement) in Spanish 26 Oct 85 pp 1, 4 C

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] Nothing like this has been recorded in the history of world journalism. A newspaper was eliminated before its initial circulation, even though it had been fully printed.

NICARAGUA HOY secretly obtained a copy of the first issue of the newspaper IGLESIA of the Catholic Church, which probably circulated only through the halls of the Interior Ministry [MININT] and Government House.

Claiming that it carried subversive messages, the Sandinist military dictatorship closed the newspaper down even though it had been intended to circulate in limited numbers among the churches.

Ironically, IGLESIA said in its first issue: "A new medium has been born," but the Sandinists thwarted this birth, inducing an abortion.

Some of the news carried in the first issue, which we partially reproduce here, are as follows: On page 1, "Cardinal Carries Message of Peace to the Coast. Jubilant Welcome by People of Bluefields." "Cardinal Obando, President of CEN [Nicaraguan Episcopal Confederation]." "Eucharistic Congress Announced."

On page 2: "Latin America Resists Atheistic Models 500 Years After Evangelization." "The People Meet Their Pastors And Discover the Distorters."

On page 3: "Radio Catolica Protests to MININT. Demands Right to Evangelize;" "Family Week," From the 13th to the 20th; "MININT Gags Radio Catolica;" "Bible Readings of the Fortnight."

Pages 4 and 5 carry a report with pictures of Cardinal Obando y Bravo's visits to the various departments of the country and pictures of the multitudinous demonstrations of support. A headline reading "Cardinal Obando y Bravo Acclaimed Throughout the Country" ran across the two pages and a summary read:

"The message conveyed by His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo to Nicaraguans during his visits to various places in the country can be summed up as a call for national reconciliation, dialogue, and pacification of all hearts to find the peace Nicaraguans long for.

Fulfilling a hectic and crowded agenda, which he can do only because of his great physical strength, the archbishop has visited several places where he was has been greeted with the usual joy by throngs of Catholics and members of other religions.

Cardinal Obando y Bravo is making visits from north to south and east to west to preach love, justice, and freedom, which he says are the pillars on which peace and reconciliation must be founded.

Those who slander the church and its bishops daily are the only ones who are displeased with the popular support he has received everywhere. They have tried to limit his activities to religious services and to disavow his voice as the voice of those who have none.

The picture layout we publish here is eloquent proof of what the cardinal's presence has meant to Nicaraguans."

The headlines on page 6 read as follows: "Clergy in Granada Protest SMP [Patriotic Military Service] Recruitment;" "Seminarians of Rio San Juan Detained;" "Liturgical Reform, 20 Years After, 20 Years After the Council."

Page 7 carries a story continuing from page 1. Headlines on page 8 read: "Church, Channel of the Good News, Cardinal Says." It also carried a communique from the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference denouncing the detention of the seminarians and the unjust summons served by immigration officials on foreign Catholic priests who are performing church missions in Managua and Granada. The communique ended with this phrase: "The bishops of the Episcopal Conference urge Catholics to unite in prayer and, through the intercession of Mary, during this month devoted to the Holy Rosary, to pray so that the Prince of Peace will bestow His blessings on our fatherland and soon grant us this invaluable gift Nicaraguans need so much."

This same page carried a denouncement by Msgr Lopez Fitoria, bishop of Granada, through which he reported the recruitment of six other seminarians, demanded the right to evangelize, and denounced the "persecution of the church by those who impose their will on the church in a bid to set conditions on evangelization so it will suit their party interests and exercise of power." Msgr Lopez Fitoria's denouncement was headlined: "Other Seminarians Recruited."

EMERGENCY DECREE AMENDMENTS OUTLINED

PA011655 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The Nicaraguan National Assembly yesterday ratified the 1-year state of emergency decree after more than 5 hours of heated debates on the problems caused by the U.S. military aggression, the patriotism displayed by our fighters and workers, and the ridiculous stance assumed by the leaders of the opposition political parties.

Several amendments to the decree were approved, including the reinstatement of the country's judicial system. The assembly approved with a majority vote the reinstatement of the right to jury trials, the right to a defense, and the right to appeal.

The motion to amend several articles of the state of emergency decree was introduced by FSLN representative Rogelio Ramirez.

The amendments stipulate that all defendants will be presumed innocent until proven guilty in accordance with the law; that all defendants are entitled to active participation in the trial to make use of all recourses for their defense [una verdadera intervencion para disponer de los medios para su defensa]; that defendants will not be forced to testify against themselves or to plead guilty to an offense.

The amended decree also establishes that the right to habeas corpus will be applicable for use by all executive branch administrative officials [administrativos del ejecutivo] who violate the provisions of the Statute of Rights and Guarantees of Nicaraguans and in all offenses that are not against state security or the public order.

LEGISLATORS VIEW STATE OF EMERGENCY SITUATION

PA011911 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Domingo Sanchez Salgado, Socialist Party [PSN] deputy in the National Assembly, has said that the state of emergency decree ratified yesterday will have negative effects on his political party, rejecting claims that the PSN endorses the postures of the Reagan administration and the COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise].

[Begin Sanchez Salgado recording] We do not want the state of emergency because it seriously affects our party. There are newsmen [words indistinct] who are attempting to blackmail us by telling us that Reagan and the COSEP are protesting against the state of emergency. To attempt to link us with what Reagan or the COSEP believe is low. We have our own concerns. We are asking for the suspension of the state of emergency because 60 minutes after the executive decree was issued Alejandro Solorzano [leader of the General Confederation of Independent Workers] was the object of repression simply because it occurred to him to lose some weight or to stop eating for several days to save money. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Virgilio Godoy, deputy of the Independent Liberal Party, opposed discussing the state of emergency decree sent by the presidency of the Republic in the National Assembly. He said that the state of emergency decree is an attempt to nail Nicaraguans with a state of emergency that has actually been in effect during the 6 years of revolution.

[Begin Godoy recording] [Words indistinct] that nothing could surprise us any more. However, this action came as a surprise because the conditions to justify it were totally absent. The first thing that came to our mind was that a large-scale international conflict was in the making at that time. However, upon examining the international situation, we observed that, in a conciliatory gesture, the Costa Rican president stated, and it was carried in a government newspaper, in Israel that he wished to normalize Costa Rica's relations with Nicaragua before the end of the year. Meanwhile, the chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, in a gesture of appeasement, stopped and turned back the aid that had begun to arrive for the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] from the United States. Here in Nicaragua, there has been no development that could serve as the basis for a decision of these proportions. Then attempts were made to use the file [words indistinct] the humble visit workers staged to demand the payment of their full bonuses.

However, it is not only the examination of these developments, but also the statements issued by this government's highest military leaders. Hours before [issuing of the decree] they said the FDN had been defeated, and was in disarray, and demoralized. However, they adopted a measure incongruent with reality that cannot be justified from that angle. As someone stated here: We should not be surprised, because if anything has prevailed here during the past 6 years it has been the state of emergency. Since Decree No 10 of 23 August 1979 was issued until the present, with the exception of 3 months, the state of emergency has been a daily affair for all Nicaraguans.

There are observers here. The only opportunity we have to speak is inside this hall because outside only the speeches by the ruling government majority, which attacks the legislators who emit their opinions, are permitted. [end recording]

Meanwhile, FSLN representative Federico Lopez asked the assembly whether the mercenary war Washington has been promoting against Nicaragua for the past 5 years and the plans to invade Nicaragua from Honduras and Costa Rica constitute a state of emergency. Lopez stated that there are politicians and businessmen in Nicaragua who receive salaries from the U.S. Government to make efforts to destroy the revolution.

[Begin Lopez recording] Precisely 1 year after Nicaragua said it was willing to sign an agreement that would defend the sovereignty of Nicaragua and each of the other Central American countries, prohibit the presence of extraregional military powers, and ensure the elimination of conditions that could lead to aggressions by one country against another, Honduras and El Salvador -- with the complicity of various Costa Rican Government officials -- are maintaining that it is not the U.S. presence in Central America in the form of military maneuvers and strategies for aggression or the search for an understanding between the Central American governments that must be discussed, but Nicaragua's military balance with a view to disarming Nicaragua. This is public knowledge and is what, at the instructions of Mr Shultz, is sabotaging the Contadora political negotiation. What does this constitute? An emergency, a state of war under which the Nicaraguan people are living.

Our fighters in northern Nicaragua are defeating the mercenary army. They are sons of Nicaraguan families and represent each Nicaraguan family, as 10, 15 or 20 percent of all families have sons, brothers, husbands, or boyfriends fighting in northern and southern Nicaragua. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS U.S. 'VIOLATION' OF AIRSPACE

FL011414 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] On Thursday, 31 October, at 0958, an SR-71 "Black Bird" spy plane of the U.S. Air Force violated Cuban airspace, flying over the entire length of national territory from west to east and then from east to west. Later the plane returned to U.S. continental territory. The spy plane began flying over the island at the Cape San Antonio lighthouse in Pinar del Rio Province, following a path toward the east during which it overflew several cities in the country's western, central, and eastern regions until leaving Cuban airspace at 1025, 14 km southeast of the base which, against the will of the Cuban people, U.S. troops occupy in Guantanamo Province.

The same aircraft, after flying over Haiti and the Dominican Republic, once again intruded into Cuban airspace at 1040, 13 km northeast of Banes municipality in Holguin Province, following a path which included important cities until leaving national territory at 1053, 30 km northeast of Havana and heading toward the United States.

Even though there is more than sufficient proof that the current U.S. Administration acts with a gendarme mentality of the most spurious interests and with a cynicism that recalls Hitlerian practices, the Cuban Government is convinced that it has a responsibility before the Cuban people and the international community to announce officially its profound contempt for these transgressions by the U.S. Government.

With this gross violation of Cuban sovereignty, the sixth since Mr Ronald Reagan took office, the United States is providing new factors for international public opinion to evaluate the unusual hypocrisy of a government which attempts to appear before it as an innocent victim while practicing throughout the world an unprecedented terrorist policy resulting from its moral isolation and inability to devise alternatives to the problems and dangers confronting humankind.

The Cuban people and Government believe that the Reagan administration is breaking the law because it is constantly behaving like a criminal, violating all norms of international law and respect for nations' sovereignty. We are also aware of the vile tricks it is capable of, of the arrogant actions such as this new violation of Cuban airspace. We come to the conclusion that it is imperative to continue preparing to confront any action in order to defend our sacred homeland and the revolutionary work it represents, at whatever price.

The protest note presented to the U.S. Interest Section by the Cuban Government concludes: The persistence of the U.S. Government in carrying out these intimidatory practices reveals, at the least, the inefficiency of its botched espionage activities aimed at finding an explanation for the unbreakable determination, courage, and firmness of the Cuban people, which Mr Reagan's brazen outrages merely strengthen.

Issued by the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Cuba, Havana, 31 October 1985.

Media Coverage of Reaction

FL011959 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 1200 GMT began its first news bulletin on the morning program "Revista de la Manana" by reading the protest note issued by the Cuban Government to the U.S. Interest Section on the alleged U.S. violation of Cuban airspace.

While the announcers read the document, video of a spy plane is shown, followed by a map of Cuba on which the alleged course of the spy plane is shown. The camera then shows a still of the document as it may appear on the front page of a newspaper, however there is no indication as to whether it is indeed a copy of a newspaper item.

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish at 1200 GMT carries the story of the alleged violation of Cuban airspace as the fifth item. The announcer reports that the "Havana ministry has issued a strong note of protest for the violation of Cuban airspace by a U.S. spy plane." This report is followed by a station commentary which is the official protest filed to the U.S. Interest Section in Havana.

News bulletins during the "Revista de la Manana" program on Havana television service in Spanish at 1300, 1330, and 1400 GMT all begin with the reading of the official Cuban protest note and showing the video of a spy plane and its alleged course.

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish at 1500 GMT is interspersed with reports of workers, students, and women criticizing the United States, saying "the violation of our airspace is just one more imperialistic provocation, and that miserable action forms part of the aggressive Yankee actions against our revolution and socialist countries."

The national television news broadcast by Havana in Spanish at 1800 GMT begins with the announcer reading the official Cuban protest note and with the same video shown during the morning newscasts. This is followed by video interviews with Cuban people on the street who criticize the alleged violation of Cuban airspace and express support for Cuba's official response. The news concludes with video coverage of demonstrations held at an unspecified time by "Havana university students and teachers who unite today with all the Cuban people against this new Yankee imperialistic aggression against our sovereignty." Video interviews are held with some students, who all denounce the United States. A high-angle shot shows the demonstrations to be so large that neither the beginning nor the end of the crowd can be seen. The demonstrators march shouting: "Cuba, yes! Yankee, no!"

The camera then switches to the U.S. Interest Section building where an aerial shot shows that the building is surrounded by a huge crowd shouting: "Fatherland or death, we will win!"; "Commander in chief, command us!" The demonstrators are carrying Cuban flags and posters, some of which read "Out with the SR-71" and "Reagan is crazy!" An unidentified woman is leading chants and slogans as the camera shows people carrying signs and Cuban flags.

At 1830 GMT coverage of the demonstrations and the news program ends.

Demonstrations Continue

FL021316 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Students, workers, and people's demonstrations are continuing throughout Cuba in repudiation of the violation of Cuban airspace by a Yankee spy plane SR-71 "Black Bird". The new and most recent aggression by the U.S. Government against Cuban sovereignty was provoked Thursday when the airplane overflew national territory twice.

CASTRO MEETS WITH LESOTHO FOREIGN MINISTER

FL011350 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has met in Havana with Lesotho Foreign Minister Vincent Montsi Makhele, with whom he had an extensive and fraternal exchange of opinions on the situation in the southern cone of Africa and on bilateral relations between the two countries. The Lesotho minister conveyed friendly greetings from Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho Leabua Jonathan to Castro, who reciprocated the greetings.

The Cuban president expressed his admiration for the bravery and firmness of the people and government of that small south African country. Castro added that Lesotho is an island of liberty surrounded by the disgraceful sea of apartheid.

DPRK TRADE MINISTER, DELEGATION CONTINUE VISIT

FL021258 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met in Havana with a DPRK government trade delegation presided over by Foreign Trade Minister Choe Chong-kun. During the meeting the two leaders exchanged information on the economic development of their respective countries and expressed satisfaction with the results of the negotiations.

Agreements Signed

FL021916 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] In the presence of representatives from the two countries, Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas and DPRK Foreign Trade Minister Choe Chong-kun, member of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee, have signed trade and payment agreements as well as the price agreement for 1986-1990 and the 1986 trade protocol. The documents protect Cuba's sales of sugar, nickel, and other industrial products, and Korea will supply metals, raw material, and light-industry products.

'PROTESTA DE JARAO-85' EXERCISES BEGIN 6 NOV

FL310303 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] The "Protesta de Jarao-85" preparatory defense exercises will be held in Sancti Spiritus from 6 to 10 November. The aim is to improve training of all cadres, military reserve forces, and citizens to wage a war of all the people in the event of an enemy attack. Sancti Spiritus residents, who are trying to host the main ceremony of the 26 July national holiday by working hard in the areas of production and services, will show in "Protesta de Jarao" that in defense they are also loyal followers of the Moncada martyrs and heroes.

PRESIDENT HOYTE ANNOUNCES DECEMBER ELECTIONS

FL312305 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte has announced that general elections will be held in Guyana December 9th. In a speech last evening to local government leaders and members of parliament, Mr Hoyte said parliament will be dissolved today to begin the election campaign.

The elections are being held several months before they were constitutionally due. The last elections in Guyana were held in 1980.

Says Party Open to Talks

FL020330 Bridgetown CANA in English 0023 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, Nov 1 CANA -- Guyana's President Desmond Hoyte says his People's National Congress (PNC) is open to continuing unity talks with the main opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) despite the decision to call general elections for December 9.

The Marxist-Leninist PPP, which had been pushing for a postponement of the poll to facilitate more inter-party dialogue, has threatened to boycott the poll.

I find no nexus between the ongoing talks and the forthcoming elections, Hoyte said after announcing the date of the poll. It is my hope that the talks will progress in a manner which will enable us all to pool our talents and resources for the purpose of building our country.

The PPP, which has persistently accused the PNC government of rigging all elections from 1968, said it wanted to reach agreement with the government on satisfactory electoral arrangements before the elections were held.

Hoyte said recent amendments to the country's electoral laws restricting overseas and proxy voting and abolishing postal balloting, were in response to the PPP's charges of unfairness in the electoral system.

Hoyte, expressing disappointment with the PPP's stand, said he had hoped the amendments would have been received in the spirit of conciliation and the search for national consensus by which they were inspired.

Hoyte said the PPP's stand was incomprehensible and inexplicable. Its up to the Guyanese public to judge, he said.

PPP CONDITIONS PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS

FL020246 Bridgetown CANA in English 0004 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 31 CANA -- The Marxist-Leninist People's Progressive Party (PPP), Guyana's main opposition group, today threatened to boycott forthcoming general elections unless the government agrees to counting the ballots at polling centres, rather than at a central location as has been the case in the past. PPP leader Dr Cheddi Jagan, who has repeatedly expressed serious doubts about the integrity of the electoral system, said he was confident the PPP would win as long as the poll is free and fair.

President Desmond Hoyte announced last night that Guyanese will go to the polls on December 9, ending weeks of speculation that an early election would be held ahead of the consitutional deadline of March 31, 1986.

Jagan, a former Guyana premier, said there would be trouble if the PPP participates in the poll and ballots are not counted at polling stations. He did not elaborate.

There have been persistent charges of election rigging against the People's National Congress (PNC) government, which has ruled Guyana for two decades. The Working People's Alliance (WPA), the other major opposition group, also expressed dissatisfaction today with arrangements for the conduct of the poll. The Marxist group is yet to say if it will contest the election.

Key trade unions, legal, church and human rights organisations have also questioned the practice of counting ballots away from polling stations. In a petition to the government, they declared: We can see no valid justification for the practice. Certainly, if this is done without the party representatives being present in the vehicle conveying the boxes, it makes a mockery of the entire electoral procedure, as it clearly permits tampering with the boxes during transit as happened in previous elections. Signatories to the petition include the opposition-backed Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union, the University of Guyana Staff Association, the Guyana Mine Workers Union, and the Guyana Human Rights Association and the Bar Association.

According to the preliminary electoral roll, 372,708 persons are registered to vote, down from 445,876 for the last elections in 1980.

PPP REJECTS OVERTURES TOWARD UNITY FROM DLM

FL301430 Bridgetown CANA in English 1406 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 30, CANA -- Guyana's main opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) has rejected unity overtures from the small right-wing Democratic Labour Movement (DLM), as preparations continue here for general elections expected in December.

The DLM, which claims to have the full support of Guyanese living in the United States and Canada, wrote the Marxist PPP urging that they unite to defeat the ruling People's National Congress (PNC), which has been in power here for the last 21 years.

The PPP, led by ex-Premier Dr Cheddi Jagan, has spurned the invitation, however, declaring that it is not interested in uniting with any tiny reactionary grouping... which now seeks to unite with the PPP and other parties for the coming elections.

In a statement, the PPP said it would not unite with reactionary backward groups which are inherently hostile to the working people and are objectively conspiring to pawn our country to imperialism.

The PPP recalled the bloody days of the 60's when unpatriotic forces, including the antecedents of the DLM, worked with the Central Intelligence Agency and other instruments of imperialism to destroy democracy and remove the PPP from government.

The PPP states categorically that it will not join with the DLM, or political mushrooms of its kind, which are mere puppets of imperialist power centres that generously hand out the money bags for their crusades against national liberation and socialism, the party declared.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CONTADORA OFFICIALS BEGIN 3-DAY MEETING

PA010345 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0231 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Panama, 31 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Today, the Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers began a 3-day meeting "to work on the final three points pending in the peace document" for the region. Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera told ACAN-EFE that "we continue working within the 45-day period" that has been set to conclude the final document that should be submitted to the Central American governments. The signing of the peace document for Central America depends on the revision of the three topics that have caused the greatest problems to the Contadora negotiations which began 3 years ago.

The Panamanian, Venezuelan, Mexican, and Colombian diplomats revised the terms of the regional agreement relating to military maneuvers and the arms race, as well as the verification and control of the commitments that are made. Cabrera underscored that "the Contadora Group's final phase will conclude next month" since "the period for consultations has ended."

The Panamanian deputy foreign minister, who made a very terse statement regarding the meeting that begins today, said that Mexican Deputy Under Secretary Ricardo Valera, Venezuelan Deputy Foreign Minister German Nava, Colombian Deputy Foreign Minister Guillermo Fernandez de Soto, and he are meeting at a "secret location" in this capital.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

OFFICIALS TO QUESTION GENERALS ON MURDER

FL312320 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] In the Dominican Republic, President Salvador Jorge Blanco has barred a former general and three police officers from leaving the country. Officials say they want to question them about at least nine murders committed between 1966 and 1978, during the military-backed government of President Joaquin Balaguer. The 1971 beating deaths of two American missionaries, Paul and Nancy Porter, are among the murders being investigated.

SURINAME

IRANIAN DELEGATION DISCUSSES TRADE, COOPERATION

FL302229 Paramaribo International Service in English 1800 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Continuation of supply of rice, prefab houses, and timber by Suriname to Iran were the main topics of the talks conducted by delegations of both countries. An Iranian mission has been visiting Suriname since last weekend. The Surinamese side proposed Iran supply the country of fuel. The Iranian delegation headed by the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Javad Mansuri held talks with the ministries of Foreign Affairs; Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries; and representatives of other sectors.

The parties have agreed that an Iranian technical and economic delegation will visit Suriname before 15 December to finalize the talks on cooperation in the field of trade, agriculture, and culture.